

Saddam calls for Vatican help

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has urged the intervention of the Vatican to lift United Nations sanctions imposed against his country after its invasion of Kuwait, the official Iraqi News Agency reported Tuesday. Cardinal Achille Silvestrini, the Vatican's prefect for the Oriental churches who was visiting Iraq on a Middle East tour, met separately Monday with President Saddam and Deputy Prime Minister Tarcq Aziz, the agency said. It said Mr. Silvestrini conveyed to the Iraqi leader "a verbal message from Pope John Paul II." The discussions, said the agency, focused on the "injustice inflicted on the Iraqi ocopie as a result of the standa of certain bossile states." President Iragi people as a result of the stands of certain hostile states...." President m told the cardinal that the U.N. economic sanctions should have ended after Iraq relinquished Kuwait. "Did the Iraqi children fight in Kuwait? Did old people and women fight in Kuwait?" President Saddam was quoted as saying. "Then where are the human rights that people talk about? I hope you take information to the Pope about hospitals in Iraq to see how children die because of the lack of food and medicine, and because of the lack of sterilised water; and all of this happens in spite of the fact that the Iraqi army is not in Kuwait anymore.

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AMMAN WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1993 THU EL QU'DEH 14, 1413

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Sarid to attend meeting in Morocco

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TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid has accepted an invitation to a conference in Morocco, and Arab League member which has no official ties with the Jewish state. "He received the invitation and on the 24th and 25th of May be will be in Casablanca," Mr. Sarid's spokeswoman said Tuesday. The World Bank has invited Israel to attend a 20-nation conference in Casablanca to launch a programme to protect the Mediterranean environment, the semi-official Moroccan daily Le Matin said Tuesday. It was the first time Israel was invited to an official function in Morocco.

Russia tests second submarine for Iran

DUBAI (R) — Russia has started sea trials in the Baltic of a second submarine for Iran which is expected to be delivered before the end of the year, Western sources in the Gulf said Tuesday. The second Kilo-class (submarine) has rolled out of the factory and is currently being tested at sea." a senior Western naval officer said. Iran took delivery in November of the first of three submarines ordered from Russia, raising an outcry from its neighbours concerned at an escalation of the regional arms race and from Western powers fearing a threat to oil supplies.

Kinkel in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel arrived Tuesday at the start of a fact-finding mission that will also take him to Egypt. On his first visit to Syria, Mr. Kinkel was greeted at the airport by his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Al Sharaa. The two drove straight downtown for talks at the foreign ministry. In an airport statement. Mr. Kinkel said he believed there will be a tangible progress in the Washington peace talks ... and we in Germany attach great their tangible outcome."

6 missing Kuwaitis found in Iraq

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti man and his five young brothers and sisters, who disappeared four weeks ago, have been found in Iraq and will be repatriated soon, the deputy prime minister said Tuesday. Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah interrupted the parliament's weekly session to announce that the six were in Basra and would be brought home by the International Committee of the Red Cross Wednesday or Thursday. The official thanked Moroccan King Hassan Il for mediating with Iraq for the release of the Kuwaitis, including two small children. He would not give reporters further information about how they got to Basra. Sand Al Mkhaiter, 21, left his parents' home in a small car with his sisters and brothers for a drive on April 8. They were not heard

Demirel confirms candidacy

the Turkish press.

DOHA (AP) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri arrived Tuesday on the last leg of a swing through the Gulf where he has been seeking help in restoring normalcy to his country after 15 years of civil war. A joint statement on his talks issued in Oman as he moved to Qatar said the sultanate has decided to reopen its embassy in Beirut "out of desire to bolster the efforts of the Lebanese government to foster stability in Lebanon, its unity and its sovereignty."

Israelis kill 7 in Gaza in 24 hours

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AFP) — Israeli soldiers shot dead two brothers Tuesday as seven Palestinians were killed in 24 hours, the heaviest toll since Israel sealed the occupied territories in late March, Arab

Another 25 more Palestinians were wounded during a Gaza Strip strike in memory of four Palestinians the army shot dead

Two brothers were riddled with bullets by troops disguised as Arabs driving a car with Gaza Strip plates, witnesses said. They were hit in the head and chest as they talked in the shade of an olive grove at Maghazi refugee camp, south of Gaza City.
Yusef Abu Mhassen, 25, and

Jomaa Abu Mhassen, 30, were buried immediately in a funeral which spanned a mass demonstratin against Israeli occupation. At Shati camp on Gaza's seaf-

ront, soldiers shot dead a protester after they were stoned. A six-year-old boy has also described by doctors as clinically dead and a nine-year-old has

And a Palestinian shot in the

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Palestinian and Israeli nego-tiators were breaking into three working groups for Tuesday's

peace talks amid signs of new

but we are on the right track. We

spokeswoman for the Israeli de-

working groups were scheduled to meet. One is assigned to the

task of defining the concept of Palestinian autonomy, and the other on control of land and

The third working group, which is dealing with the issue of

human rights in the occupied

territories, was to meet in the

committee began studying the

territorial framework for Palesti-

nian autonomy. The human

rights groups examined several

drawing up new lists of Palesti-nians expelled by Israel from the

occupied territories since 1967

who could be called to go home.

sign of progress in the Israeli-

Meanwhile, there has been no

sues, notably the possibility of

Monday, the land and water

Two of three Israeli-Palestinian

"We are progressing slowly, we

seriousness on both sides.

must have more patience

legation told AFP.

water.

afternoon.

Israeli-Palestinian

track seen serious

head on April 26 in Nablus on the occupied West Bank, died of his wounds in hospital Tuesday,

Palestinian sources said. Meanwhile, a Palestinian on Tuesday stabbed and lightly wounded a 50-year-old Israeli vegetable merchant at Beit Lahia

on the strip, military sources said. At least 25 Palestinians were wounded by bullets in clashes at Shati, Khan Yunes and Gaza City, correspondents reported, as trouble erupted over the killing Monday evening of four Palesti-

The group of four died near Bureij camp during curfew hours

They were trying to flee after allegedly ramming an Israeli roadblock, military sources said. But a Palestinian doctor who examined the corpses said they had been shot in the face and chest at very close range, suggesting they had not been fleeing.

They were suspected of attacking army patrols and killing Palestinians who allegedly collaborated, a military spokesman said. False identity papers were found in the car, but the men

Syrian talks. The official Syrian

press expressed disappointment Tuesday. Al Baath, the ruling

party newspaper, warned "peace

On the Israeli-Lebanese talks.

the delegation chiefs said they

had begun to discuss concrete

but did not elaborate.

President Bill Clinton may in-

vite the Arab and Israeli peace

negotiators to the White House

next week, an administration offi-

The invitation would under-

score the Clinton administration's

more active role in the talks,

which have progressed in fits and

starts since they were launched by the Bush administration in Octo-

The talks resumed last week

after a four-month break and

Secretary of State Warren Christ-

opher immediately invited the

delegation leaders to his office to

convey the administration's

strong interest in breaking the

Former President George Bush

invited the heads of the Israeli

and Arab delegations to meet

with him last fall at the White

(Continued on page 5)

logiam of the negotiations.

ber 1991.

is not for tomorrow."

added

Shops closed and black flags flew over houses across the strip as the population mourned the

Since the army sealed the territories at the end of March, 25 Palestinians and one Israeli civilian have been killed.

The leadership of the intifada' called Tuesday on Palestinians to keep Jews out of the occupied territories as a riposte to the ban

on Palestinians entering Israel. "Keep all Israelis and the herd of settlers off Palestinian state land by stepping up the intifada," the underground leadership urged in a communique.

Palestinian "forces" and the people should make a joint effort to increase the resistance against occupation," it said.

The communique told Palestinians and international aid workers not to seek special permits from the Israelis to enter Jeru-

The leadership called for Palestinians to try to force Israeli road blocks en masse on Saturdy to reach the Holy City.

Mideast economic

Palestinians last December and its sealing off of the occupied

The talks in Rome are one of five sets of discussions on specific areas designed to involve all parties of the Middle East and dozens of other states under the framework of the peace initiative

Bilateral peace talks between Israel, the Palestinians and Arab states are going on now in Washington. Syria and Lebanon are boycotting the Rome talks, saying Israel must withdraw from their territory that Israel occu-

outline of their work so far on a study of the economy of the occupied West Bank and Gaza

Strip.
"There was a rough estimate up that one may need to generate up to \$1 billion over five years" for development in the territories. Jacob Frenken, co-chairman of the Israeli delegation, told repor-

confirmed such a figure had been raised but only as an indication of how substantial the needs are and declined to name a specific num-

The official, Harinder Kohli, said a World Bank team had

Hardship for the population has grown with the closing off of the occupied territories, which has prevented more than 150,000 people from going to work, said Yusef Sayegh, an economic advisor to the Palestinian delegation.

The World Bank study will concern garbage and sewage management, roads, worker training and other infrastructure matters.

seas in ways that would involve various countries in the area.

King says increased exchange of views among ulemas can help Islam, Muslims

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday stressed the importance of meetings between Islamic ulemas and scholars, saying that such meetings and ranorochement contribute to serving the faith and Muslims.

King Hussein noted that Muslims rally around the principles of Islam despite their different opinions and judgements.

The King was speaking during a meeting with Muslim ulemas and scholars gathered at the Hashemieh Palace to discuss ights in Islam.

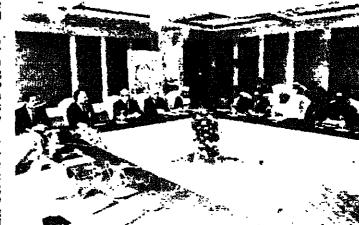
King Hussein expressed his happiness and that of Jordan's government and people for hosting the groups of ulemas in Jor-dan and voiced hope that their discussions and deliberations

would come up with concrete results that would serve Islam and Muslims

Addressing the gathering, organised by the Royal Academy of Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation), King Hussein called on ulemas not to withhold advise and right opinion particularly when such opinions crystallise as a result of brotherly discussions and deliberations.

King Hussein stressed the importance of the right and reasonable presentation of Islam to the world and said he pinned great hopes on the Amman meeting and future meetings to come up with great achievements serving Islam and Muslims the world

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday meets with religious scholars attending a conference in Amman (Petra photo)

Brotherhood studying its options and moves

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan's largest and most influential political party is readying itself for all possibilities in the event that the government decides to alter the elections law before elections for the country's 12th Parliament are held later this

The Islamic Action Front (IAF), the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement, is carefully drafting its election policies while awaiting the government's position on... the new parliamentary elec-tions before it decides on which and how many of its members will contest the next elections, IAF President Ishaq Al Farhan told the Jordan

Government officials have been non-committal on



Ishaq Al Farhan

whether a change in the law is in the making, only confirming that the cabinet of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker will not deal with the law, and all issues pertaining to the elections will be tackled by the transitional gov-

In what was the most substantive comment by any Jordanian leader on the issue, His Majesty King Hussein said last week that a change in the elections law was "still under consideration. This is still under consid-

eration. Whether a change to the elections law ... whatever will enable Jordan to move further," the King told Reuter in response to a question on whether the next elections will be held under a one-man-onevote formula. In an earlier remark, when

he accepted the resignation of former Prime Minister Mudar Badran in the summer of 1991, King Hussein said the elections law needed to be changed in order to allow more active popular participation in the

Cabinet members said it will

be against the methodology of the current government to address the law or the elections due to the presence of a large interest group within its ranks. Ten ministers of the 26member cabinet of Sharif Zeid are deputies and a conflict of interest, said one government source, will arise if the government makes any decision on the elections.

A new government that will oversee the elections is expected to be formed soon; the change has awaited the completion of the Kingdom's celebrations of the 40th anniversary of King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers, which was marked Sun-day. Cabinet members contacted by the Jordan Times, however would not speculate on the date of the resignation of Sharif Zeid's government, nor will they com ant on who is expected to form

(Continued on page 5)

Sales tax law may have to await next cabinet

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The introduction of a controversial sales tax could be put off until after an expected cabinet reshuffle or change in government since members of the council of ministers are deeply split over the issue, informed sources said Tuesday.

The sales tax, which ranges

in value between five and 20 per cent depending on the nature of the product, is expected to lead to price increases in the market despite the fact that it will be instituted in place of the consumption tax which has been in force for the past two years, local businessmen say. But, according to officials who support the tax, there will not be an overall increase in the cost of living in the first

year after its introduction be-

cause the application of the law will lead to both reductions and increases in prices that will cancel themselves out. Traders and consumers alike

are, however, hoarding goods in anticipation of the new levy, according to reports that appeared in the local press recently. The general feeling in offi-

cial circles is that the sales tax has not been properly pre-sented to the public and therefore not understood well and hence the controvery and opposition that it has drawn. Furthermore, political groups have also used it as a weapon to entice supporters, officials

The measure was supposed to have gone into effect on May 1 with the government enacting a temporary law under which the sales tax would replace the consumption

tax levied from Jordanian industries. Few details of the exact rates

of tax are available. In general, however, basic foodstuffs, medicine, school supplies, and most essential needs of children are excluded from the tax, according to officials familiar with the law. Items seen as semi-essential will be taxed at five per cent, and the rate will go up to 20 per cent for goods classified as luxury products.

The temporary law has been drawn in its near-final form and is awaiting a "few touches here and there" in the Council of Ministers, according to the

sources. But "differences among members of the Cabinet coupled with the dispute between the government and the private sector aborted the intro-

duction of the sales tax effec-

tive May 1," said one of the According to this source,

opposition to the imposition of the law came from ministers who are also members of Parliament seeking reelection in the general legislative polls expected this year.

"Obviously ministers who are also deputies do not want to jeopardise their reelection chances by being seen as having endorsed a move that led to price increases in the market. said the source. "They understand the government's obligation to impose the tax but obviously prefer that the move comes after they leave the Cabinet.'

Under the election law. Cabinet members and government officials have to relinquish their posts before filing nominations for election. Ten

(Continued on page 5)

It would reward the Serbs with

much of the territory they gained

in a 13-month war on Muslim

Israeli helicopters rocket South Lebanese village

NABATTYEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli helicopters rocketed a house in a village of South Lebanon on Tuesday, wounding five civilians, security sources

They said two helicopters fired four rockets into Kfar Tibnit village just outside Israel's selfdeclared "security zone" in the south. Guerrillas of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah are active in and around the village. The sources said five people

were wounded when two rockets hit a two-storey house, doing extensive damage. Two other rockets slammed into fields in the village, breaking windows in nearby houses. A Hizbollah official said the

wounded were members of the Tabaja family and had no links to the group. Security sources said two guer-

rillas were killed and eight people were wounded in three separate encounters.

At midnight (2100 GMT), Hiz-bollah fired Katyusha rockets into the "security zone."

The Israelis struck back with a tank cannon barrage, killing the two fighters. No casualties were reported in the Katyusha bar-

rage.
Nearly three hours after the helicopter assault, Hizbollah said in a communique that its guerrillas attacked two Israeli army outposts in the security zone, "inflicting direct hits and destroying an enemy military vehicle."

The communique said mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns were used in the two-pronged assault on Beit Yahoun and Haddatha. It made no reference to the

fighters reportedly killed in ohmor. Security sources said 11 Hiz-

bollahis, trained in ninja warfare, attacked both outposts, which were manned by Israeli-aff:liated south Lebanon Army (SLA) militiamen.

The minjas are a class of feudal Japanese warriors highly trained in stealth and employed as spies and assassins

U.S., France to send. units to Bosnia force

States and France agreed Friday to press ahead with sending peacekeepers into Bosnia if a peace agreement holds up, sidestepping a decision on using military force against Bosnian Serbs. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said after five hours of talks that "urgent" consultations would be held on military measures only if the agreement

PARIS (Agencies) — The United

signed by Bosnian Serbs on Sunday falls apart. Mr. Christopher has encountered resistance in London and now Paris to President Bill Clinton's tentative decision to use a combination of air attacks on Serb artillery and the easing of an

arms embargo against Bosnian's Muslim-led government. Mr. Christopher, in a joint news conference with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, said. "I think we found common ground to implement" the U.N. peace plan to end the fighting,

establish a provisional govern-

ment in Sarajevo and divide Bos-

nia into 10 ethnically based can-

134,000 people are dead or missing. Mr.Christopher also held talks with President Francois Mitterrand, Premier Edouard Balladur and Defence Minister François Leotard. He then departed for Moscow for talks with Russian

States and France."

Mr. Christopher said U.S. troops would be dispatched to the Balkans to help enforce a "goodrival ethnic factions.

tion would explain the move to the American peoples as "one of the principal, important peacekeeping efforts in Europe,

cities and villages. An estimated

leaders. Mr. Juppe said the forces of most major countries would participate in a peacekeeping opera-. tion "that includes the United

faith" peace agreement among He said the Clinton administra-

probably ever."

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman De-mirel officially confirmed his candidacy Tuesday for upcoming presidential elections, representing the right-wing True Path Party. Mr. Demirel's announcement, made to the True Parth Party's parliamentary group, followed a meeting Sunday with coalition partner Erdal Inonu, leader of the centre-left Social Democratic Populist Party (SDPP), at which Mr. Inonu gave his support for Mr. Demirel's candidacy. The SDPP's continued support depends on Mr. Demirel maintaining the right-left coalition if elected, according to editorials in

Hariri in Qatar

Rabin, Peres clash on Jordan-Palestine link

TEL AVIV (Agencies) --- Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Israel's oldest political rivals, clashed Tuesday over future Palestinian self-government. Officials played down the differences that emerged in separate interviews to Israel's leading daily

Yedjoth Ahronoth. Mr. Rabin, 71, and Mr. Peres, 69, are Labour Party oldtimers jostling for power for two decades. The more dovish Peres launched the debate, urging an accel-eration of Arab-Israeli talks in

Washington and an eventual confederation between Jordan and the nearly two million Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories. Mr. Rabin, an ex-army chief who seized party leadership from

Mr. Peres and returned Labour to power last year, said he opposed moving too quickly and any talk now about the final status of the territories could only blow up" the talks. "A confederation is unacceptable to me, and in general - why

the agenda and is not the government stance?" Mr. Rabin asked. Talks with the Palestinians are centred for now on an interim period of limited self-rule with

relate to a subject that is not on

negotiations on the final status due to begin three years into

"I am ready to give the Palesti-nians administration of areas such as health and education, and municipal matters, while security matters are controlled by us," Mr. Rabin said.

"I don't see the permanent solution in a confederation, since a confederation is between two sovereign states. Whoever says a confederation between Jordan and the Palestinians, says first of all a Palestinian state, and I oppose that," he said.

Mr. Peres told the paper Israel faced two decisive weeks in the negotiations and they must be accelerated. But Mr. Rabin said it was a mistake to expect a resolution so soon. "If somebody wants to finish quickly, to give the other side everything, it's possible to finish quickly," Mr. Rabin said. "I

don't intend to do that." After winning election last year, Mr. Rabin put off making Mr. Peres his foreign minister until nearly the last moment. Years ago, in the thick of their rivalry, he labelled Mr. Peres an

"indefatigable saboteur." (Continued on page 5)

talks open _ in Rome

ROME (AP) - A Palestinian delegate to talks on the Middle East's economy Tuesday condemned Israel's expulsion of 400 territories.

Israel called the comments, which came in opening remarks at two-day discussions here, regrettable and said it wanted to remain very firmly" on the route to economic cooperation.

launched in Madrid in 1991.

During the morning session, World Bank officials gave an

ters (see page 2). Later, a World Bank official

visited the occupied territories in January and February. It found "significant needs for improvement" in the water supply, transportation system and health care.

The delegations are discussing those sorts of issues plus improving telephone systems, linking power grids, easing the path of tourists and building a canal project linking the Red and Dead

Yemeni leader hopes democracy will better relations with West

DUBAI (R) — Yemen hopes that its fledgling democracy will lead to better relations with the West, President Ali Abdullah Saleh was quoted Tuesday as

saying.
"We think that democracy is the key for new relations between Yemen and the new world order, the western countries and the United States," Mr. Saleh said in an interview with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspaper Al Khaleej.

Mr. Saleh's ruling party won a clear plurality in last week's general elections, taking 121 of the 301 parliamentary seats in the first free multi-party elections since North and South Yemen merged three years ago. Yemen strained its relations

with the West and its Gulf Arab neighbours over its sympathetic attitude towards Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis over Kuwait. Yemen's stand angered the wealthy Gulf states, depriving it

of vital sources of aid and remitt-Mr. Saleh said relations with the Gulf were improving.

There have been recent signs of Yemen breaking its regional isolation and its top officials have visited several Gulf states.

The United States and Euroean Community (EC) congratulated Yemen on successfully holding the elections. Washington said it was looking forward to working with whichever government is formed.

Asked whether the United States was putting any conditions on economic and political cooperation with Yemen, Mr. Saleh said: "The only preoccupation of the American administration is the relationship between Yemen and Iraq."

"We have informed them that we cannot be split from the Arab body and that Iraq is part of this Arab body and an inseperable part of the Arab Nation ...and that there are interests and common links," he said.

"We told the Americans that if there is an American-Iraqi animosity now, there will come a time when this will end and they will have good relations," he

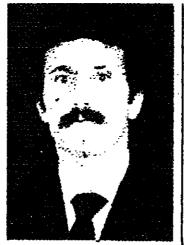
The largely underdeveloped country of more than 14 million people at the southwestern corner of the Arabian Peninsula is racked by lawlessuess, unemployment, annual inflation of about 100 per cent and a budget deficit of \$2.1 billion.

Mr. Saleh said Yemen's foreign debts amounted to \$7 billion and that the country had not received any new loans since North and South Yemen merged three years

Mr. Saich hoped the new democratic system in Yemen would attract more foreign investment. "The outside world has been waiting for the results of the elections to see the nature of the new system ... now that has been

He said he wanted Yemen's new government to be formed by the three leading parties in the elections — his General people's Congress (GPC), the former Marxist Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) and the Islamists of the emeni Gathering for Reform

The GPC and the YSP had



Ali Abdullah Saleh

been ruling Yemen jointly in a 50-50 partnership since the May 1990 merger.
The YSP won 56 seats but says

that 13 of its members won seats as independents, making it the second largest party in parliament. The YGR won 62 seats. The European Community praised Yemen for having taken a "blod and important step" towards demo-

The EC said in a statement: "The recent elections in Yemen constitute the completion of a bold and important step towards Yemen's democratic goal."

Probe opens into British arms sales to Iraq

LONDON (AP) - A judicial inquiry opened Tuesday into allegations that the British government connived in illegally arming Iraq. Margaret Thatcher and her successor, Prime minister John Major, lead the list of those

quiry marks the return of a problem shelved. The airing of charges that Britain helped arm Iraq right up to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 casts a new shadow over his conservative

Mr. Major and his cabinet ministers have acknowledged the charges are serious. But Mr. Major says he knew nothing about the sales or any informal relaxation of the government's embargo against arming the combatants in the Iran-Iraq war. Opponents say

the collapse of the trial of three

ABUJA (AFP) - Sudanese gov-

ernment and rebel delegates both

rejected a compromise proposal

by Nigerian mediators on impos-

ing strict Islamic law in Sudan,

but peace talks will continue.

Army (SPLA), fighting for a

secular Sudan, turned down the

Nigerian suggestion that Sharia

should not be applied to hun-

dreds of thousands of southerners

living in the Muslim north for an

SPLA delegates said, however, that Sharia, which has the main

sticking point in the talks, should

governs the relationship between

a state and individuals to be

derived from a religion," SPLA

delegation spokesman Nhial

"We do not want a law that

The Sudan People's Liberation

negotiators said Tuesday.

unspecified period.

still be on the agenda.

British executives of the Iraqiowned Matrix Churchill Corp., based in Coventry, England.

The company was reportedly identified by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 1989 as in Solon, Ohio, in September

Clark told the court that he en-

another retired politician, Sir Richard Luce.

A Foreign Office minister in

the warm-up act in an inquiry likely to last through September with the big names coming on

Mr. Luce testified that in 1984 the government faced pressure to change its policy of selling only "non-lethal" equipment.

posture, because the approach of the last two or three years had got increasingly difficult to defend, Mr. Luce said.

Lady Thatcher, who was prime minister when the arms sales took place, has made no public response to an announcement by Mr. Scott that he expects her and Mr. Major to testify.

Mr. Major, who succeeded her in November 1990 and held top cabinet posts in her administrations, has promised to give evidence. He will be the first serving prime minister to testify in public. The inquiry, announced by Mr.

Major last year, will go back to 1984 and include British participation in Iraq's plan to build a 131-foot gun. In April 1990, British customs officers seized nine sections of tubing for the gun which the manufacturers had said was agricultural machinery.

previously secret documents have pointed at least to rule-bending in the late 1980s with the Trade Department pushing a "more flexible" approach on arms ex-

Polls in November showed most Britons thought government ministers were lying in denying knowledge of sales - what became known as "Iraqgate."

There are also signs, however, that many Britons take a relatively relaxed view of arms sales to dictators on grounds that America, France and other Western countries also do it.

U.S. military hands over Somalia operation to U.N.

World Bank studying

\$1b in Palestinian aid

By Suleiman Al Khalidi

AMMAN — The World Bank is

considering a \$1 billion and pack-

age to develop the occupied terri-

tories during interim self-

government, according to a Palestinian delegate to multilater-

"The World Bank is moving in

the direction of recommending allocating \$1 billion to the West

Bank and Gaza Strip," said Samir Huleileh, a senior member of the

Palestinian team to the multi-

lateral economic talks resuming

He told Reuters the bank

would seek final internal approv-

al for aid to cover a five-year

interim period of self-rule being

negotiated with Israel in the main

the infrastructure of the occupied

territories, where economic de-

velopment has been limited by a

quarter century of Israel occupa-tion and the last five and a half

vears of Palestinian uprising

Under the terms of the U.S.brokered Arab-Israeli talks which

resumed in Washington last

week, interim self-government

would be followed by a negoti-

ated final status for the West

Mr. Huleileh said the World

Bank was also preparing a sepa-

rate \$30 million package for feasi-

bility studies on structural im-

provements which would be im-

plemented if Israel and the

Palestinians reach agreement on

critical in directing foreign invest-

ment and aid in the most needy

infrastructure sectors," he said

"These studies are going to be

interim self-government.

The money would help develop

Middle East peace talks.

against Israeli rule.

Bank and Gaza Strip.

Tuesday in Rome.

al Middle East peace talks.

late Monday before leaving Jor-

dan for Italy. Mr. Huleileh said at least 21

regional economic cooperation

projects were to be discussed by

European, Japanese and U.S. de-

legates to the talks in Rome

Tuesday and Wednesday.

He said the World Bank had

since December sent five teams:

to the occupied territories to

assess infrastructural obstacles

and needs and was expected to

submit a technical report by June.

negotiators believed there had

been a shift in approach by inter-

national bodies and agencies to-

parallel government in the making," he said, adding that interna-

tional aid was increasingly being

directed away from services and

relief to productive sectors such

as agriculture and small industrial

A Paiestinian development

fund to funnel foreign aid for

infrastructural projects to local

councils was expected to begin

operating at the end of 1993 and

already had a pledge of financial

support from the European Com-

Europe provided more than

half the estimated \$100 million

the occupied territories received

in foreign assistance in 1992, Mr. Huleileh said. U.S. aid was also

on the rise with \$25 million

pledged this year from \$13 mil-

U.S.-sponsored training prog-

rammes involving hundreds of

senior Palestinian administrators

were under way in the occupied

territories after being agreed at

previous rounds of the multilater-al talks.

Mr. Huleileh said extensive

"They are dealing with us as a

wards them.

projects.

munity.

lion in 1992.

Mr. Huleileh said Palestinian

MOGADISHU (Agencies) The U.S. military command in Somalia officially handed over Tuesday to a United Nations mission headed by Turkish General Cevik Bir.

U.S. General Robert B. Johnston, commander of the multinational United Task Force (UN-ITAF), handed over to Gen. Bir, 54, in a 30-minute military ceremony in swelfering early after-

The ceremony ended American command of efforts by tens of thousands of troops from a score of countries to protect relief operations for the starving people of the Horn of Africa country and

disarm its warring clans.

The pale blue flag of the United Nations, with its white olive branches and globe, was hoisted to flutter over the U.S. embassy building, now headquarters of United Nations Operations in Somalia II, (UNOSOM II) at 2:05 p.m. (1105 GMT).

Gen. Johnston declared that

Operation Restore Hope, which began with the arrival of U.S. marines here on Mogadishu heaches on Dec. 9, had been a "successful mission."

Gen. Johnston praised the work of multinational force. which have safeguarded food convoys and virtually ended the starvation, civil war and death by disease that claimed an estimated 350,000 lives last year.

"We need to thank the 19- and 20-year-olds in uniform ... who by their poise and discipline and patience and good judgement tra-ly did make it all possible," Gen. Johnston said......

But he said a lot of work remains for the U.N. force, which will include more than 4,000 Americans who are staying behind for about a year.

"Yes, there are still bandits out there," Gen. Johnston said. "The future of Somalia is in the hands of Somalis."

After handing over their duties to Pakistanis, Botswanans and Moroccans, Gen. Johnston and a contingent of U.S. forces immediately left for the trip back to the United States.

Soldiers, sailors and Marines have been leaving by the planeload over the past two weeks, flying home to bases in California, New York, Texas and other states.

Campbell, said: "These re-

ports add to the already over-

whelming evidence that the

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait moves bacheiors from family areas

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait municipal authorities are demanding expatriate bachelors move out of the city's so-called "model areas" - suburbs where Kuwaiti families form the majority of residents, a newspaper reported Tuesday. Members of parliament and community leaders have complained that a post-Gulf war rise in the proportion of foreign bachelors in the country's reduced total population has led to an increase in harassment of women, rape and use of alcohol. The Arab Times said Kuwait municipality Monday had told landlords that electricity to the properties could be cut and they could be fined 500 dinars (\$1,650) if the properties were not vacated in terms of a law which took effect Saturday. The legislation bars expatriate bachelors from living in areas where Kuwaiti families form the majority of residents and requires them to vacate their properties. A landlord would face a 1,000 dinar (\$3,300) fine if his property was rented to a bachelor again within one year of the first violation, the newspaper said. The government has declared a policy since its 1991 liberation from Iraqi occupation of cutting dependence on foreign labour as much as possible. Kuwaitis numbered less than 30 per cent of the two million population before the war and now form just under half of the 1.3 million total population. Many of the new expatriates are Asian hachelors brought in to replace Palestinian families who left shortly after the conflict.

Two Iraqis seek haven in Kuwait — paper

KUWAIT (R) - Two Iraqis have sought sanctuary in Kuwait saying they were army deserters who had quit because they were hungry, Al Anba newspaper said Tuesday. "A patrol of one of our border posts caught two persons dressed in military uniforms who claimed that they were with the Iraqi army," the newspaper, quoting security sources, reported. "The two men, walking on foot, said when questioned...that they had run away because they don't have food." The two men said without explanation that they had informed their army superiors they were going to cross the frontier. The Iraqis asked that they be taken care of by Kuwaiti authorities and said they would be executed for desertion if returned to Iraq, the newspaper said. The newspaper did not say when the incident happened or in which part of the recentlydemarcated 207 kilometres land frontier.

Saudis deny reports of riots by refugees

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (R) - Saudi Arabia has denied Iraqi charges that refugees at a camp in northern Saudi Arabia had fought Saudi guards with clubs and knives in a riot in which several refugees were wounded. Ibrahim Hamad Al Hazah, the emir (governor) of Rafha province in which the camp is located, was quoted Tuesday as telling the Okaz newspaper that the camp close to the Iraqi border had not witnessed any disturbances. "Our Iraqi brothers at the camp lead a quiet life and are provided with all services," he was quoted as saying. Iraq said in April that the refugees, many of them opposed to the Baghdad government, had staged a demonstration and burnt down a building and some shops in the camp market. But it did not say when the incident took place or why. The camp at Rafha holds about 28,000 Iraqis, some of them former prisoners-of-war who refused to go home after the Gulf war over Kuwait. The others took refuge in Saudi Arabia after fighting in southern Iraq between the Iraqi army and rebels. Saudi Arabia has said that up to February last year, it spent \$400 million on the upkeep of the refugees. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata was quoted after visiting the camp in January this year as saying she did not hear any complaints from the refugees. But Saudi newspapers quoted her as saying that the refugees expressed concern about their own futures if Iraqi President Saddam Hussein remained in power for long. Many of the refugees stranded at the remote camp have sought asylum in third countries but few have been able to leave as countries around the world tighten conditions for accepting asylum seekers. Baghdad has attributed charges of maltreat camp to a trickle of refugees who have returned home with the help of the Red Cross.

Aid ship adrift off African coast

MOGADISHU (AFP) — A cargo ship chartered by the aid organisation World Concern has issued a distress call and is adrift in the Indian Ocean off the Somali-Kenyan border, U.N. officials said Monday. The ship, the MSV Basra, was 25 kilometres south of the border between the two countries when it issued the Mayday call overnight Sunday, said Adishwar Padarath, spokesman for the U.N. peacekeeping operation here. The message was recieved by Belgian forces of the U.S.-led multinational force in the southern port city of Kismayo, 400 kilometres southwest of Mogadishu, he said. The U.S.-led UNITAF force is currently handing over to a United Nations Operation, UNISOM-II. The spokesman said the aid ship, which called for assistance from the Kenyan navy, was loaded with relief supplies and water. No other details were available, he added.

Poles pass on Iraqi response on American

BAGHDAD (R) — The Polish embassy in Baghdad has passed on to the U.S. State Department the results of its contacts with the Iraqi authorities in the case of an American oilman who went missing in Kuwait last week. "I informed the State Department on all the developments of the case. They are to decide what information should go to the press," Jan Pekarski, who heads the U.S. interests sections at the Polish embassy, told reporters Tuesday. Mr. Pekarski declined to give further details. The Iraqi government has not said whether it is holding the oilman, Kenneth King Beaty, who was last seen about 20 kilometres south of the Iraqi-Kuwait border. Mr. Pekarski said Monday he was in touch with the Iraqi authorities for word on Mr. Beaty's whereabouts. The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (Unikom) in the demilitarised zone along the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border looked for Mr. Beaty but did not find him. It has also asked Baghdad to help find the American.

67:95 68:39 69:15

part of Irag's network to procure expected to be called to testify. arms. U.S. customs officials shut For Mr. Major, the public indown a Matrix Churchill branch "We wanted to get a sensible Since November, dozens of

The British executives were cleared of illegally exporting arms-making machine tools to Iraq between 1988 and 1990 after former Trade Minister Alan

couraged the sales. Tuesday's inquiry, presided over by Appeal Judge Lord Scott, opened with testimony from

The furor broke Nov. 9 with, 1985 when the Britain arms ban went into effect, Mr. Luce was

Khartoum, rebels turn down Nigerian Sharia proposal Deng Nhial declared.

> state law. In other words, we want a return to the pre-1983 Al Beshir has stated. situation, before the government "People who were until recentimposed Sharia," he added. Since that year, the SPLA in

the mainly animist and Christian south has been battling successive Khartoum regimes, at a cost of hundreds of thousands of lives. Relief agencies say more than two million people in the south face famine.

"We want Sharia to be a per-

sonal law, which Muslims would

The government spokesman, Planning Minister Ali Al Haj Mohammad, declared: "Our compromise to the SPLA is that we shall not make Islam the religion of the state of Sudan." He stressed that "the principle of secularism is not Sudanese."

The SPLA denied that the talks in June 1992 broke down south of Sudan had already been exempted from Sharia-law for submit to voluntarily, and not a more than a year, as the Khar-

> linked with the government say that in fact Sharia still applies in the south," Deng Nhial said. "A southern member of the

> government resigned a few days ago, giving among his reasons the fact that the Khartoum government has broken its promise not to apply Sharia to the south." The SPLA also contests the division of Africa's largest nation

> into nine northern and three southern regions, citing the presence of hundreds of thousands of southerners in the north.

Previous Nigerian-sponsored

after the two sides failed to reach a compromise on the religious issue and the government retourn junta led by Omar Hassan jected an SPLA proposal for the creation of a confederal state.

This year, the talks went ahead after a series of prior agreements The Junta accepted a demand from the leader of the mainstream SPLA, Colonel John Garang, that the heads of dissident factions of the rebel movement not be allowed to attend the

Abuja talks. It also renewed an offer of an amnesty to the southern rebels and before the talks began, Col. Garang declared a unilateral

Nigeria itself has a nlixed Muslim, Christian and animist population.

Britain 'knew of Iraq arms route'; Jordan warns against being made scapegoat

Defence equipment supplied to Jordan in 1985 under a \$270m deal signed by Mar-Iraq to update 200 British from Iran in the early 1980s. Spare parts for Chieftain armoured recovery vehicles were also sold directly to

Mark Higson, a former

turers and dealers, told the BBC of the Jordanian link: "It wasn't as though we were deliberately trying to arm Iraq through a third country, but the fact that it was happening and we were aware of it might have been let to go

knew that equipment that could be used for lethal purposes was going to Jordan and could be sent on to Iraq. The Liberal Democrats'

British government was a knowing party to the supply of arms to Iraq in the period before the Guif war. Lord Justice Scott will

question Baroness Thatcher and John Major over the guidelines on exports to Iraq, and also over their possible involvement in decisions relating to the traffic of arms and related material - The Independent.

many countries, including route to Iraq in run-up to the supported by a former senior Western countries and Arab Foreign Office official. The garet Thatcher was sold on to Gulf war, in breach of its own inquiry, set up following the collapse of the Matrix Churcountries, were keen to see guidelines. Fouad Ayoub, the Jordathat Iraq's military capability Chieftain tanks captured

ish government knew and approved of an arms supply

JORDAN'S ambassador to

Britain has said that the Brit-

nian ambassador in London, said that vital parts for Iraqi tanks were supplied by Britain to Jordan, which then passed them on to ' Britain's knowledge. He said.

he would be prepared to give evidence to Lord Justice Scott's inquiry into the arms-

next week, if Britain attempted to make Jordan a scapegoat. His allegations are chili prosecution last year, will investigate breaches of British government guidelines banning the supply of

ment, which could be used for military or civil purposes, and breaches of export laws. Mr. Ayoub, speaking on

to-Iraq affair, which starts **BBC Radio's Special Assign** ment programme said: "It is no secret that during the years of the Iran-Iraq war remained undiminished.

"Jordan operated within this context and as such helped to purchase and send arms and equipment to Iraq. Those arms and equipment were financed by other Arab countries and done with the full approval of Western powers and other Arab nations.

Foreign Office official who oversaw export licences from defence equipment manufacHe said the government

defence spokesman, Menzies

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

	PROC	GRAMME TWO
:	18:00	Documentary
		News in French
-		French Varieties
•		News in Hebrew
		News in Arabic
÷	20:30	Charce in a Million
	21:00	Spotlight
:	21:30	Voyager News in English
	22:09	News in English
		The Gravy Train Goes East
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PRAYER TIMES

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St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swelfieb. emblies of God Church, Tel.. 632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation De in Saille Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366 Terrasancta Church Tel: Church of the Annuac 623541.

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 771331. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Assuman International Church 7 652526. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932. Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691.

WEATHER

illetin supplied by the Department of

. A drop in temperatures will take place and winds will become westerly moderate. Also clouds will appear at various aktitudes and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain. In Aquba, it will be dusty and winds will be southerly fresh and seas rough.

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Catholic Church Tel. Orthodox Church Tel. Boal Lutheren Church Tel:

Dr. Bassim Qaddoumi 6486 Dr. Ghaleb Zawaudeh 7360 Firas pharmacy 6619 Ferdows pharmacy 7783 Al Asema pharmacy 6370 Nairoukh pharmacy 6376 Al Salam pharmacy 6446 Shmeisani pharmacy 6446 Nairouh pharmacy 6726 Najib pharmacy 6726 Najib pharmacy 8766	11 12 36 55 72 30 43 60
IRBID: Dr. Fayez Al Qadhi(- Al Quds pharmacy(-	-}

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USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

EMERGENCIES Food Control Centre Civil Defence Department

Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 907467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 727111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)
(directory assistance)121
Overseas Calls
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661 101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Radio Jordan
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
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Amai ZAR(Hospital	674155
Zarga Ibu Si Al Hik DEBD:	Govt. Hospital National Hospital na Hospital na Modem Hospital	(09)900560 (09)986732 (09)990990

Greek Catholic Hospita Ibn Al Nafees Hospital

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RI) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where is should always be verified.

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Aden (R.J . Dubai, Abu Dhabi (R.J

sels, Paris (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

V/:40	····· Karachi (P
10:35	Cairo (M. Sanza (1)
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11:30	Laddah (D)
18:45	Jeddah (St. Damascus (P
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Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday attends the students to donate to the charity box, and the annual ceremony in honour of students parti-money is distributed among the less privileged cipating in the Charitable Piaster Fund (char-students during the academic year. Following ity box). The ceremony was held at the Palece a folkloric dance and song performance by a of Culture in Al Hussein Sports City. The group of school children, the Queen distrifund, in cooperation with the Ministry of buted honorary certificates to school princip-Education and the United Nations Relief and -als and students (totaling 62 schools) partici-Works Agency (UNRWA) conducts a student pating in the programme. The Queen was project throughout the schools to provide for received by the president of the General Union

the poor and the needy. The project enables of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), Abdullah Al

JEPCO's union employees to get pay increases, better conditions

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The General Union of Workers (GUW) employed by the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) Monday expressed pleasure at a verdict passed by the Industrial Court endorsing their rights and ruling that the workers should receive better pay and acquire better working condi-

Walid Khayat, the union president, said "though we are pleased with the verdict issued last Thursday, the union will pursue all efforts within the law in order to ensure further gains for the work-

"We believe that the court's verdict was balanced and achieved some gains for the majority of the workers, and I am pleased with the decision of the court. But there is no doubt that the union will seek ways to further improve working conditions and pay," said Mr. Khayat in a telephone conversation Monday with the Jordan Times.

The court convened at the request of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker following the failure of a series of meetings through the Ministry of Labour to bring about an agreement be-

tween the JEPCO management

and the union. "It took the court two whole months to reach the verdict, which most importantly stressed the need for a great measure of harmony between the union and the management to ensure continued service," Mr. Khayat said. "All workers dealing with electric power and cables, including en-gineers and technicians, will receive a JD 20 a month pay increase, others among the total 2,070 JEPCO workers will receive a monthly allowance of JD 15," the union president said.

"Furthermore, the court ruled that GUW workers should receive compensation for their work prior to 1980 when they came under the umbrella of the social security scheme, and the compensation should be paid at the rate of a month's salary for every year in service," he added.

Mr. Khayat said the union started action against the management last October when it became clear to the union that the management had started to harass the workers, implement arbitrary transfers, issue unjustified warnings and threats and impose penalties. "The Labour

the differences and disagreements and had to refer the matter to the court," Mr. Khayat ex-plained. "The court has now

ruled that no arbitrary dismissal shall take place, nor can the management dismiss any worker while be/she is ill or undergoing treatment for injuries sustained on the job," he added, "Furth-ermore, the court has asked that the management make available a nursery for female workers' children under six years of age," said Mr. Khayat.

The extra allowance, he said, was demanded by the union in view of the dangerous work in which these union members are involved. "According to the terms of the

concession granted to JEPCO by the government in 1947, JEPCO workers ought to get the best pay and best work conditions compared with other workers in Jordan, in view of the nature of their work," Mr. Khayat said.

JEPCO management recently introduced the one fils per kilowatt surcharge on each subscriber's bill, thus raising an extra JD million annually.

As a result, Mr. Khayat said, JEPCO has now paid all its dues and distributed dividends at the rate of 15 per cent to its sharehol-

Pharmacists review 135 papers at meeting in Irbid

AMMAN (J.T.) — Participants in the first international Middle East conference on pharmaceutical sciences held at the Jordan University for Science and Technology (JUST) Tuesday heard two lectures by specialists from the United Kingdom and Egypt at the morning session.

According to Ahmad Kofahi, the conference's rapporteur, a total of 12 working papers from four Arab countries, the United Kingdom and the United States also reviewed in the morning

He told the Jordan Times that in the afternoon session the delegates reviewed papers dealing with medicinal chemistry, phar-maceutical technology, clinical pharmacy, pharmacology and therapeutics.

The papers were presented by participants from Jordan, four other Arab states, and the U.S. and India.

The three-day meeting, which was opened by JUST President Kamel Ajlouni, is expected to review 135 working papers by the participants on various pharacteristics. macology issues.

In addition, three workshops and 11 lectures were planned, dealing with drug industries, the teaching of pharmacy and medicinal herbs among other topics, according to Mr. Kofahi.

In his opening address, Dr. Ajlouni said there was a need to reappraise the role of pharmacists in complementing the medical

Dean of JUST's Faculty of Pharmacy Naji Najib said the conference reflected the university's continued efforts to ensure researchers' cooperation towards developing the pharmaceutical

Dr. Najib, who is also a member of the organising committee, said that renowned international experts who offered outstanding contributions in the field of pharmacentical education and research are attending the confer-

spending by 5%

AMMAN (J.T.) - Government departments have been instructed by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker to reduce their overall operational spending on allocations ear-marked in the 1993 fiscal budget by five per cent.

The move was deemed necessary to help make up for the amount to be paid by these departments to their employees in a recent cost of iving increase approved by a Royal Decree and made effectivé on January 1, 1993, according to a senior government official who preferred anonymity.

The government made the retroactive payment of the salary increases this week, but announced that the total annual amount needed to cov-

cultural Credit Corporation

(ACC) last year gave farmers up

to JD 15 million in loans, but

according to Minister of Agricul-

ture Fayez Khasawneh farmers

tend to seek additional lending

sources to help finance their op-

The ACC has limited lending

resources and therefore farmers

and cooperatives are increasingly

turning to merchants, capital-

holders or financiers for their

borrowing needs, the minister

said Tuesday in an address at the

opening of a technical seminar on

simplifying loan granting mea-

eration with the Near East, North

Africa Regional Agricultural

Credit Association, the seminar is

tackling issues related to credit

for farmers, collecting dues and

handling matters related to loans

to farmers and agricultural coop-

Dr. Khasawneh told the audi-

ence that loans obtained from

sources other than the ACC

reached up to 25 per cent of the

total estimated value of produc-

tion in 1992 amounting to JD 30-

50 million for all borrowers com-

Jordan's overall agricultural

production in 1992 was estimated

at JD 500 million, according to

Organised by the ACC in coop-

sures to farmers.

erative societies.

at JD 73 million.

The official said it is hoped that the five per cent savings would make up for the needed amount in accordance with the prime minister's instructions.

He said the following categories will be exempt from the five per cent reduction: allocations for medicine and consumable medical equipment and relief services

tbooks.

facilities to farmers

AMMAN (Petra) - The Agri- Dr. Khasawneh.

allocations for projects under contract, and allocations for rent.

allocations for school tex-

The prime minister demanded that government offices supply the Budged Department with a list of the areas where the savings will occur.

He said that farmers need to

borrow at least 10 per cent of the

total value of their production,

but their actual overall borrowing

amounted to three per cent last

year which means that the ACC

has to come up with more funds

seminar was also addressed by Mansour Ben Tarif, the ACC

director general, who outlined the main task of the 280 em-

ployees in his department, which

deals mainly with credit to Jorda-

nian farmers and conducts re-

search on farmers' credit needs.

its 1993-1997 five-year-plan,

which envisages no more than

JD 15 million in annual credit

facilities to local farmers, said

But, he said, an individual far-

mer can obtain up to a JD 6,000

ioan compared to JD 2,000 pre-

largest number of farmers, the

ACC has been directing its atten-

tion to small farmers giving them

priority in obtaining loans; and in

1992 small farmers accounted for

62 per cent of the total number of prowers, Mr. Ben Tarif added.

directors of ACC departments -

are attending the seminar.

A total of 30 participants -- all

In its drive to benefit the

Mr. Ben Tarif.

The ACC has already prepared

The opening of the three-day

to meet farmers' needs.

Government to cut | Jordan to urge UNRWA against recent fee levies

which is taking part in the advisory commission meeting of the United Nations Relief and Works in Vienna Thursday, will re-state its position vis-a-vis the agency's budget deficit, according to Adel Irsheid head of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs De-

partment.

Jordan will reiterate its rejection of any reduction in UN-RWA's services to Palestinian refugees and its opposition to the levying of fees on agency school demand that UNRWA Commis- Jordanian markets where it can children, said Mr. Irsheid in a sioner General Ilter Turkmen get lower prices for high quality statement Tuesday before his de-

parture for Vienna. Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber had earlier expressed Jordan's views concerning the agency's measures to cover its

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordan, estimated \$28 million deficit in its submit a full report on the needs 1993 budget.

According to Mr. Irsheid, the Palestinians in the Israeli- tion. occupied Arab lands and in Lebafugees and several foreign nations Irsheid. and major donors to the agency's

The Jordanian delegation will urge the donor nations to in-crease their contributions to the Apart UNRWA, said Mr. Irsheid,

of the Palestinian refugees in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in deficit in the budget, the agency's light of the current difficulties Agency (UNRWA) due to open 'emergency programme for caused by the continued occupa-

In addition, the Jordanian derecent measures concerning its non, as well as other difficulties legation will reiterate a demand facing the agency are on the that the agency move its head-agenda of the two-day meeting quarters to the field of its operawhich is to be attended by Arab tions in Middle East with a view countries hosting Palestinian re- to reducing expenses, said Mr.

Jordan, he added, will also propose that the agency purchase its food and other needs from the

Apart from Jordan, Svria. agency, especially as the Arab Lebanon and Egypt, the Vienna countries have recently expressed meeting is to be attended by representadesire to make contribution to tives of the United States, Japan, Sweden, Italy, Belgium, France He said the delegation will also and Turkey.

Creditors review loan Meeting concurs Jordan lacks comprehensive population policy

By Sausan Ghosheh Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Academicians con-curred Monday, that Jordan lacks creation of a committee that will a comprehensive population poli-

cy and strategy. At the closing session of the "Population Changes and Development Policies" conference, organised by the Centre for Strategic Studies (CSS) at the University of Jordan, professor of communications at Yarmouk University said: "We need clear and objective developmental, political, environmental, social and economical policies. We need an integral planning poli-

Ahmad Hamouda, a professor of demography at the University of Jordan, stressed that Jordan needs a government institution specialised in population issues and able to issue executive deci-

He also called on the CSS to formulate a planning strategy outlin-ing the problems, their root causes, all the elements and factors of these problems and their solutions. In addition, Dr. Hamouda said that scientists need to focus their efforts in producing qualitative research, operational research and policy-oriented research, and minimise on the quantitative research, which has been the focus so far. He suggested concentrating on demographic studies on the inter-relationship between population

changes and social, economic, political and security changes.

Tayseer Abdul Jaber, former

address the recommendations of the conference.

Dr. Bahouth added that the CSS should study the recommendations of previous conferences related to this

Two sessions took place in the morning. The first, entitled "Popula-tion Changes and National Security and Strategy in Jordan," minimised the direct effect of the size of the

population on foreign policy.

Musa Breizat, professor of political science at the University of Jordan. was unable to attend but sent his paper in which he said the population mposition is a salient factor that influences foreign policy. But, he added that "the nature and magnitude of the salient factor is less determined by composition and structure than by a function of intervening variables that have to do with factors and elements that constitute foreign

Abdul Karim Fayez, a professor of demography at the University of Jordan, stressed that the strength of the country is not determined by the absolute size of the population. The national power potential for each country, according to Dr. Fayez, is determined by the level of technology in that country, the size of the pro-ductive population between the ages of 15-64, the natural resources and the size of the country.

The second session, entitled "Population Policies in Jordan."

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population policies and added that if there are "hidden" policies, they are

In this session a case study was presented by Issa Masarweh, a professor of demography at the University of Jordan, portraying a conflict between the goals of the policies and the means '

Emphasising the role of the media in family planning, Mohammad Sarayra, president of the Centre for Jordanian Studies at Yarmouk University said the "media should work and through social institutions' and adopt "education through enter-, tainment" methods in order to delive:

the message. Nawaf Kalaldeh, a member of the National Committee for Population. stated that Jordan's population policy should be to control immeration. because, he believes, it is the major population problem in Jordan, no: the birth rate.

The conference, according to Mustafa Hamameh, the director of the CSS, was held to present a new approach to population analysis.

But Dr. Bahouth said the "standard of the conference was less than I expected... the level of discussions and suggestions was not stressed... we addressed issues that were said be-

Still, many of the organisers for the conference maintained that the tack of financial assistance hindered the ability of the conference from reaching its desired goal.

Dr. Hamarneh pointed out that the criticism that arose was a "healthy

* U.N. fact-finding team 3-day ends tour from the L-raeli-occupied West the U.N. team listened to

United Na ons fact-finding mission Tuesday wound up its threeday visit to Jordan and left for Cairo on the second leg of a Middle Eastern tour to gather information about the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

The mission, headed by the ambassadors of Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslavia and Senegal, had conducted talks with Adel Irsheid, head of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department, and visited the King Hussein Bridge to meet with Palestinians crossing into Jordan

The mission, which is to report on its findings in the region to the U.N. General Assembly, heard a report submitted to them by Mr. Irsheid on the deteriorating conditions of Palestinians in the occupied Arab lands in view of the ongoing siege imposed on them by the Israeli authorities.

Noting that sealing off the occupied territories, arbitrary nunishment were causing further economic difficulties, Mr. Irsheid called on the United Nations to intervene and end such practices.

At the King Hussein Bridge,

accounts by Palestinian travellers and local Jordanian officials of inhuman treatment of Palestinian travellers by the Israeli author-

Formed in 1968 by the General Assembly, the U.N. mission has, to date, submitted 24 reports to the world organisation, outlining continued Israeli violations of the Palestinian people's human

The U.N. mission has been barred by Israel from entering the

occupied territories to conduct investigations into Israeli prac-

27 British students delight in 12-day Jordan holiday

By Samir Barhoun Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A group of British students on a 12-day visit to Jordan today leaves the Kingdom carrying back with them delightful memories

back with them delightful memories of their stay.

The students, from the Balsall Common Primary School near Birmingham, arrived in Jordan as part of an exchange programme with the New English School (NES) in Amman. They described Jordan as a lovely country, and its people as very kind and generous.

During their stay, they visited Petra, Jerash, the Dead Sea, Azraq. Mount Nebo, Ajloun, Salt and two factories in Amman.

factories in Amman.

The 27 students, aged between ten and 11 years old, told the Jordan

Times that the country is quite different from their own country, describing it as great source of interest.

"People were stopping us outside Amman to have photos taken with us everywhere we work?" they could

Accompanying the children were their teachers Philip Cutler, Rosemary Reid and Bob Reid, who said this large group of young school children always attracted onlookers.

NES Director Ophelia Bishouty said the visit was a good experience for both sides, saying the visiting

foreign people and know other cul-tures, and besides that students at NES had the chance to practice Es-

who hosted the visiting British children to England, as part of the

a programme.

"We enjoyed having them with us and we hope to see them come back to Jordan again," Ms. Shihabi said. Also, NES Deputy Director Roger Foreman commended the exchange programme and expressed gratitude to families that hosted the students, paying tribute to the Ministry of Tourism, which offered facilities to the viciting gratiful.

"During last week's holidays," he said, "we were able to go with the host families on trips and it was a very

rewarding experience for both sides."
One British student, Hannah Wood, said she was impressed with the places she visited, adding that the Kingdom has unique archaeological

The students also enjoyed shopping in Jordan, saying they particularly liked haggling with the merchants. "It was interesting that we could haggle with shopkeepers. Here, unlike in glish.
Next year, she said, the NES will send Jordanian students from families

with snopkeepers. Here, unlike in England, they give in very easily," said young Martin Duckworth.

All of the students agreed that there are many wreckless drivers in Jordan, who do not even care to fasten their seat belts, they remarked. They also pointed out that Jordanians tend to smoke cigarettes more than the British, noting that anyone in Jordan can buy cigarettes resenddren to England, as part of the exchange programme.

"The NES also plans similar programmes with schools in other parts of the world, mainly in Arab countries."

Ms. Bishouty said.

NES Primary Headmistress Hanan Shihabi expressed her joy over having students from England come on such a programme.

than the British, noting that anyone in Jordan can buy tigarettes regardless of his/her age, but in England, rules are stricter and tobacco is sold only to those above the age of 16.

One of the most striking impressions by one of the students was that he believed Amman to be greener than England, Mr. Order commented than England. Mr. Cutler commented by saying that in Amman there is spacing between houses, whereas in English cities buildings are every-

All of the visiting students appreciated the hospitality accorded to them by everyone, particularly their host families.

One student, Robert Drapper, said he would like to visit again, adding that his colleagnes who declined to come with the group "do not know what they are missing."

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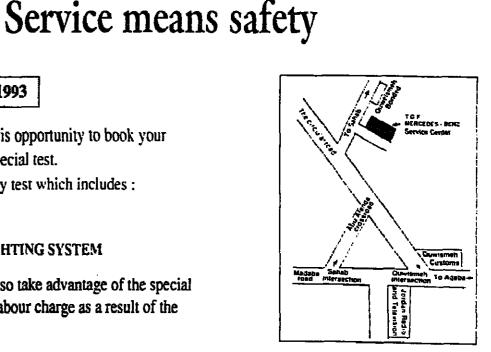
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HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet approves pay raise for municipal staff

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Tuesday and Chma. Jordan's participation in the International Labour Organisation's Conference in Generatory approved a JD 15 personal allowance increase for municipal staff effective Jan. 1, 1993; the draft municipal staff effective Jan. 1, 1993; the draft bilateral air transport agreement between Jordan bilateral air transport agreement between Jordan and China. Jordan's participation in the Interna-tional Labour Organisation's Conference in Gene-

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

Jordan Times

جرين تأبيز يربية عربية سيأسية مستلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة المسطية الأردغية

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Clearing landscape of politics

THE LOCAL political scene has been littered for some time now with speculation about an impending change of government. Many observers think that the change is imminent. Those who believe in the inevitability of change of the current premier, Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, attribute their reasoning to several upcoming domestic issues that would call for a caretaker government. Paramount on the list of those issues could be the fast approaching general elections, amendments to the existing electoral law and the controversial new sales tax. On the regional level, the direction of the peace process and its viability may also have a bearing on who will head the next government in the country.

There have been side effects to the speculation concerning the change, on top of which is the state of suspense that the Kingdom has had to grapple with so far. This wait-and-see political atmosphere is affecting not only the political and bureaucratic machineries in Jordan but also the economy. The sooner the suspense ends the better chance the people of Jordan stand to go back to business without unfounded fears or anxieties about the future.

On balance, the continuation of the incumbent grime minister in office would go a long way to restore normalcy and stability. It is of course up to His Majesty the King to decide, but one big plus in favour of Sharif Zeid is the fact that the first ever parliamentary elections under full conditions of democracy were neld during his term of office in 1989. There can be no better person to supervise the next general elections than the same statesman who had conducted fair and free elections soon after the reintroduction of pluralistic democracy. The introduction of the value added tax on commodities and services may end up becoming unpopular due to the current state of the national economy. The sting of the new tax may tax the patience of the public and hurt any government. The responsibility for changes in the electoral policy and guidelines is also awesome and far-reaching. But as heavy as these responsibilities are, they require a seasoned statesman to shoulder them.

Maybe at the end of the day the primary issue that would determine the choice of the next prime minister is the course of the peace process. The success or failure of the peace talks in Washington would have a tremendous effect on the nature and composition of any new government in the country. Since it is much too early to judge the course of the peace negotiations cetween Israel and the various Arab parties, however, the Kingdom cannot wait for much longer before the state of suspense about the new government is ended. The rumour mill about the domestic political scene must be brought to a halt soon. And there is no better way to do it than to decide and act as soon as possible.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Tuesday said that representatives of the Palestinian people who came to congratulate His Majesty King Hussein on the 40th anniversary of his assuming constitutional powers reflected the feelings of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. Their visit and their meeting with the King demonstrated the strong love for the Monarch and the strong bridges between the Jordanian and Palestinian people, said the daily. It said that the River Jordan can by no means separate the Jordanians and the Palestinians who have been bound firmly together throughout history. In addressing the visitors at the Royal Court, the King voiced his deep appreciation of the Palestinian people's endeavours to regain their rights and his deep pride in their steadfastness in the face of Israeli repression and continued occupation of Arab land, the paper continued. It said that Jordan, as the King has said, demands a peace that can be acceptable to the future generations and pledged that the Kingdom will remain steadfast alongside the Palestinians in their just struggle to regain their homeland. The King, added the paper, has always sought a just solution to the Middle East conflict and the Kingdom has never accepted any compromise over the Palestinian rights and will continue to back the Palestinians' endeavours at all costs.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily said that Israel is giving the Palestinians nothing in return for peace with the Arabs and continues to demand that the Arabs give it more concessions in return for nothing. By allowing the Palestinians to handle their own affairs in health, education, police matters and other municipal services, Israel is simply getting rid of the burden of spending on these services and paying the salaries of the employees who do the work, said Tareq Masarweh. Israel is adamant in its stand of not relinquishing any power to a really national Palestinian entity that can handle everything, said the writer. He said that the Palestinians demand full authority over their land and ask for full power to handle all the other affairs related to their land, health, security and everything else. The Palestinians should get their full rights, including self-determination, their own state and demand that all U.N. resolutions, including 799 and 242, be implemented in full to ensure the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories, continued the writer. He said that mere autonomy rule can never satisfy anyone and the Palestinians demand full sovereignty and nothing less than that.

Economic Forum

Economic growth and import control

Ponder the following equation: Y=C+I+X-M

This is what we call the national income identity where, Y stands for national income or gross domestic product (depending on whether you include factor income in X and M), and C=consumption expenditures; I=capital formation; X=exports;

The equation means that national income rises as exports (of goods and services) rise and exactly by the same amount. But it also means that national income drops as imports drop and also by

The equation, very simply, but very conclusively, suggests a way to boost economic growth, that is by cutting imports. The business of augmenting growth through bolstering exports is a very tedious task. It does not only entail building capital formation, that is production facilities which create goods and services demanded by the rest of the world, but also breaking into foreign markets through stiff competition put by other countries and thereafter keeping these markets against perpetual attacks from other producers.

Cutting imports offers a very easy way out. In 1992, Jordan's imports of goods and services stood at around three billion dinars. if Jordan cuts these imports by, say, JD 100 million, its gross domestic product (GDP) will be boosted by JD 100 million. This

cut will translate into a 3 per cent growth in GDP, which is quite a good rate by development standards. If our target is more ambitious, an extra effort to cut imports by another JD 100 million will give us a 6 per cent growth rate which is remarkable and compatible with all economic reform objectives.

Imports fall into three broad categories: consumer goods, raw materials and capital goods. In 1991, the most recent year for which detailed data on imports is available, consumer goods formed 43 per cent of aggregate imports of goods, raw materials formed 40 per cent of them, with the balance, 17 per cent, going

What is suggested in the above analysis is to compress consumer goods by shaving away certain segments of luxury imports but leaving raw materials and capital goods untouched. Imports of consumer goods amounted to JD 728 million in 1991. If they are to be compressed by only 10 per cent, around JD 72 million will be wiped away. This brings us to the first growth

target of around 3 per cent.
Imports of raw materials and capital goods are generally treated as essential inputs for the production process and consequently are not subject to compulsory reduction. However, the consump tion of raw materials can be rationalised as to eliminate waste and extravagance. In the particular case of Jordan, 36 per cent of raw materials are made up of oil and fuel; waste and extravagance in

the consumption of oil products are an undisputed fact of life, meaning that there is room for compressing even the imports of raw materials which can therefore contribute to the fine-tuning of our economic growth.

When it comes to classification, imports of capital goods are really a messy category. An imported fridge will be classified as a capital good if it is to be used by a factory or a restaurant but as a consumer good if it is sold to households. Customs officials have no idea about the uses of these items. Worse still is the fact that the fridge may start in an hotel and be later sold to a household or vice versa. This statistical dilemma is applicable to a variety of imports, such as cars, TV sets, computers, furniture, etc. Thus, capital goods imports are also compressible without jeopardising the investment process. And we have not yet talked about the imports of services (holidaying, medication and education abroad) which have a substantial luxury content.

The conclusion here is that economic growth can be greatly enhanced through the mere process of rationalising imports of goods and services. Boosting growth rates is a leading goal among those of the famous International Monetary Fund (IMF) sponsored adjustment programmes. It will be an irony if rationalisation of imports and elimination of the import-type waste are banned by these programmes.

How long can 'never' mean always?

Abdul Jawad Saleh, the deported mayor of Al Bireh and one of the 15 Palestinians who returned home on May 1, 1993, expounds the suffering of the Palestinians at the hands of the past victims of Nazi persecution.

Nazi SS general, issued orders to his soldiers to "indiscriminately" kill the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto. Only five years later, in the same month of April, Menachem Begin, a wanted terrorist and the commander of the Irgun, ordered all the villagers of the defenceless Palestinian village of Deir Yassin to be eliminated despite the fact that David Shaltiel, the Haganah commander, noted that the village was never mentioned in "reports of attacks on Jews." A member of the Irgun organisation, cited by Jacques Reyneir, the International Red Cross representative, said: "All I could think of was the SS troops I'd seen in Athens."

Reyneir counted "150 bodies thrown into a cistern." In all he counted "254 dead, including 145 women, of whom 35 were pre-gnant." One survivor testified: "Bit by bit, Deir Yassin was submerged in a hell of screams, exploding grenades, the stench of assailants killed, they looted, and finally they raped ...they ripped our ears to pull (earings) off faster." Another testified that, "a man shot a bullet in the neck of my sister Salhiyeh, who was nine months pregnant. Then he cut her stomach open with a butcher's knife." The Irgun field commander congratulating his forces on the "wonderful operation of conquest," wrote: "As in Deir Yassin, so everywhere ...Oh Lord, Oh Lord, you have chosen us for conquest.

With a few other "calculated massacres," the mass expulsion of the Palestinians was implemented, and the "Ghetto of Gaza," among others, was created. The solemn oath taken by the Jews, that "this will never happen again," was broken. Or was it an exclusive oath?

April 1993, fifty years later, some of those who were in Warsaw ghetto as young children, whose Pessah was often turned into tragedy, renewed the orders of General Jurgen Stroop, though in a different form and language. The Israeli cabinet decided to give licence to Israelis, soldiers and civilians, to shoot any Palestinian "carrying arms, even those who present no immediate threat to life." The only outcome of such an order is the inevitable killing of young Palestinian women and men, and an increase in the number of maimed and blinded Palestinians.

As everybody knows, including Jewish colonisers in the occupied territories, Palestinian "terrorists" are not an army with a unified costume. Besides, the Israelis name children, just seven years old who in indignation and in defiance throw a stone, "ter-

rorists. Yitzhak Rabin's order implies that every Palestinian is a viable victim. A Jewish mother wrote to her son who serves in the "territories" advising him that he "must kill before being killed," to ensure his coming back to her

The Israeli cabinet did not prescribe, unequivocally, indiscri-minate killing; can it thus be called 'humane'? In fact, the modern articulation of Israeli orders serves the purpose of satisfying western taste. It proves, at least verbally, the compatibility of the orders with the Geneva Conventions. The reality of what is implemented on the ground

does not concern the West. The primary motivation behind the Fourth Geneva Convention was to prevent the recurrence, against any other people, of the measures taken against the Jews.

In April 1943, Jurgen Stroop, a including those of the Warsaw Nazi SS general, issued orders to ghetto. These included measures such as the deportation of hundreds of Polish Jews, stranding them in no man's land, fifty years ago; this was considered a war crime. Hitler considered these deportees to be 'non-Aryans' and as such they were banished. The deportation of the 400 Palestinians, stranded in a 'no-man's hand' in snow, in winter and among snakes in summer, is different. First, the Palestinians are not the old or the new Aryans, they are the Jews of the last decade of the twentieth century. The supreme and damning irony is that the 'new Aryans' are the Jews, the victims of 1943. These 'new Aryans' claim that Palestine should be exclusive for the Jews. In the modern-day jargon of justification for war crimes, the Palestinian expellees are dismis-

Lord Balfour. Israel is considered attacked "foreigners" in as the realisation of God's own cities? prophecy. Of course this is a civilised fundamentalism. The Palestinians have been living on their land for millenia; many of their habits and customs, and the embroidery embellishing their

"Palestinians are not the old or the new Aryans, they are the Jews of the last decade of the twentieth century. The supreme and damning irony is that the 'new Aryans' are the lews, the victims of 1943."

national costumes were inherited from their ancestors, the Canaanites and the Phillistines. who inhabited the land before the Jews invaded it five thousand years ago. To be more objective, the com-

parison between the two ghettoes neither "right nor humane." For the Palestinians are not facing another Hitler or Nazism as Israel is "the only democracy" in the whole Middle East. Mr. Rabin was elected through a democratic process. And neither Zionism nor Israel professes or implements any racist or discri-minatory laws. Look at the Law of Return! Does it discriminate between a Jew from the ex-Soviet Union or from Ethiopia? Does it discriminate between the people of David Levy and Binyamin

Netanyahu? The system of apartheid, which governs the relationship between Christian and Muslim Palestinians and which extends to the Druze, is different. Though they are indigenous, they are of a different category. They are goyim. Only "Jew-haters" ask for equality between them and the Israeli Jews. Only leftist Jews. who are "traitors" of Zionism, consider them equal citizens of the state.

There are no laws in Israel which discriminate against the non-Jewish minority living in Israel. For the Jews suffered greatly when they were minorities in the West. Have you not read about the condemnation by Jews

A comparative study is not applicable. Land ownership in Israel is not discriminatory. Because God, according to Jewish fundamentalism, is a real estate foundation that granted land to his chosen people. The truth is that only South

Africa is racist, though lately the whites there have come to the conclusion that they should change. In Israel, they are not in need of such changes. Readers should be reminded of what all American presidents claim, that the cherished and shared values with Israel make the alliance between Israel and the United States a natural and desirable one. In fact, the terms of "Jewish ownership" of the land (non-Jews are not entitled to own land), and "Hebrew Labour" (non-Jews are not permitted to work on the land) are terms which first appeared in anti-semitic literature not in those documents of Jewish pioneers' foundations. But they only existed as verbal terms in the lexicon of Zionism. They were never implemented. These racist terms exist only in the terrorists' minds to defame Israel. For this reason, the United Nations repented when it rescinded its resolution implying

that "Zionism is racism." Besides being a black page in the annals of history, as one people suffered at the hands of a psychopathic messianism of superiority, the Warsaw ghetto suffered many of the similar collective punishments currently being imposed on the Palestinian ghetto/ghettoes: sieges, starvation, deprivation of education for children as well as adults, burning and banning of books, closures of schools, kindergartens and universities and deportations, not to

death camps but into exile.

The two uprisings are also different though they share similar episodes. The Jews of the Warsaw ghetto were armed to the teeth and were supported by the Polish army which was opposing the Nazi occupation. The Palestinian ghetto of Gaza is barely armed and not supported by anyone. In fact they are deprived of their own people's money, "don-ated" by Palestinians working in the rich oil-producing countries. The Palestinians should be punished because they rejected Israel's "benign" occupation and expressed joy when the Scuds fell

on Tel Aviv. Fortunately, the Palestinian ghettoes have so far not suffered the fate of the Warsaw ghetto. Nevertheless, the courage of the population of the two ghettoes is

nians do not have cannons to destroy tanks, they have stones which demoralise the strongest army in the Middle East and by being the brutalised innocent victims they are inflicting psychological destruction of the human being in the Israeli soldier. Moreover, these defenceless. starving Palestinians have been delineating the borders with their blood; borders which armies and their conquests could not pre-

Both ghettoes are similar in their confrontation of their region's most powerful armies. Both ghettoes fought against all odds. (However, a small but important difference, the Palestinians are fighting with bope to win the battle.) In the Warsaw ghetto, a Jewish woman is reported to have leapt from a burning building to her death. In the Gaza ghetto, children leant to their death from their schools and homes, avoiding suffocation from lethal gas bombs or the bombardment of their homes by anti-tank missiles. A young Palestinian girl, 8 years old, left her home in spite of the curfew imposed by the Israelis to fetch milk for her hungry younger brother, only to be shot dead. A medic who comes to give her aid is shot dead,

Of course, the troops in the Gaza ghetto are not the SS troops responsible for "cleansing" War-saw of its Jewish ghetto. The Israeli cabinet has besieged the Gaza ghetto with the infamous undercover units, Shimshon and Duvduvan, death squads deployed to "shoot to kill Palestinian activists." That is another difference. For General Stroop's mission was to ensure that "The Jewish quarter in Warsaw is no more," as his message to Hitler revealed. Not yet for the Gaza ghetto. Now it is a selective targetting. Not mentioning the hundreds of Palestinians who have been killed since the beginning of the intifada, the statistics about the victims of extra-judicial execution by the Israeli death squads are incomparable with the SS collective massacres. Nor is it vet like Deir Yassin or Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps.

The remarkable similarities between the two ghettoes are manifest in the victimisation of the children. In Warsaw, you could have seen dead babies at the breast of their starving mothers. In Gaza, it is a daily, weekly or monthly affair to have dead babics at the breast, and dead fetuses in their mother's womb, as victims of the lethal gas canisters fired at maternity clinics. The Jewish children in their ghetto

sed as "Islamic fundamentalists." all over the world; including the remarkably similar. The Jews of These Palestinians were not Jewish colonisers of the occupied the Warsaw ghetto did not let "a scrambled over the walls of the have Jews everywhere permitted children became fighters in the uprising against the Germans." Palestinian children of the ghettoes don't smuggle arms. They are killed just because they smug-gle a victory sign or raise their national flag, and like their Jewish counterparts some became

> "Right and wrong are the same in Palestine as anywhere else. What is peculiar about the Palestine conflict is that the world has listened to the party that committed the offence and has turned a deaf ear to the victim."

the photo of a little boy raising high his hands in surrender to a Nazi storm-trooper pointing a gun at him "has come to symbolise the Holocaust in one photograph." Likewise, TV has captured Israeli soldiers breaking the bones of defenceless Palestinian children while their hands were fettered. Hundreds of other photos symbolise the Palestinian ghettoes' uprising and show some of the comparisons with the Jewish children's involvement in the uprising against their occupation. But the Israeli political and military establishments accuse Palestinian parents of cowardice for sending their children to throw stones while they sit at home, and they deny the ramifications of their violence against Palestinian

A Jewish historian claims that

symbols of heroism.

talisation they endure. As Dr. Sabella of Bethlehem University states, the Palestinian children throw the stones "because they are an integral part of the society and they have internalised their side of the conflict."

children, whose feelings of com-

passion and moral restraint are

destroyed by the systematic bru-

Elic Weisel, the Zionist writer and Nobel prize laureate, said of the Holocaust that we should not think of 6,000,000 victims because that becomes a statistic; we should think of one small child and of that child's death; that is the Holocaust. But what about the hundreds of Palestinian chil-

given two promises, one from a Palestinian territories, of the new single tank out of the ghetto in- Warsaw ghetto with food and the Israeli government to carry recognised God and one from German Nazis who burnt and one piece." Whilst the Palesti- weapons. And some of those out such a brutal policy against the Palestinian people, including children? The ugly statistics of human rights organisations are clear, yet they are castigated by Israel as either "anti-semitic" or done by "self-hating Jews." The Israeli human rights organisation B'Tselem is vilified in the Israeli press, as is the Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC), which revealed in its report of 1992, that 28 per cent of those killed by the death squads

were children aged 15-17. Lots of similarities, paradoxes, and differences between the two ghettoes exist. The spring of April was not noticed in Warsaw, nor is it now, fifty years later in Gaza. The indifference of the West in confronting the two uprisings of the two ghettoes is stunning. In the Palestinian case, the West's indifference is preposterous and more cruel. The Canadians built a park, named after their country, on the ruins of the Palestinian village of Amwas which was razed to the ground by the Israeli army, five years after the elimination of the Warsaw ghetto. Amwas was an ancient town rooted in history. The trees of Canada park are ever green for they are living on the flesh and bones of the Palesti-

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nian dead. The United States and Great Britain share historic and contemporary guilt for the tragedy which has befallen the Palestinian people. They have also been instrumental in supporting the Israeli state financially and politically, allowing it to act with impunity. Nazi Germany bears the guilt of the devil's worst crime, which acted as a catalyst for the

Palestinians' ongoing tragedy.

The human mind cannot comprehend how the Jews, remembering what happened to them, could do the same to others. Again, it is hateful to compare between the tragedies of the two ghettoes. The consummation of human tragedies, pain, suffering and even love is incomparable. Not only because human passions and emotions are immeasurable, but because some people try to abuse the sanctity of the dead to the extent of blackmailing nations to collect money and lethal equipment and to silence voices which might criticise the wrongdoing, by the victim of past tragedies, against "minor-

As Dr. Arnold Toynbee has stated: "Right and wrong are the same in Palestine as anywhere else. What is peculiar about the Palestine conflict is that the world has listened to the party that committed the offence and has dren killed and maimed since the turned a deaf ear to the victim."



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Brotherhood studying options

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Farhan said it will be unwise of the executive to amend or change the current elections law, saying that if there "were any new ideas" they should be presented to Parliament whose mandate runs till Influential Muslim Brotherhood

Deputy Hamzeh Mansour (Amman) said his group will oppose amendments to the election it, echoing Dr. Farhan in saying that any change would have to be endorsed by the Lower House whose fourth and last ordinary session ended on March 31. Dr. Farhan and Mr. Mansour insisted that legislators should be

recalled for an extraordinary session if a change in the law was forthcoming. Mr. Mansour argued that it will be unconstitutional to issue a temporary legislation amending the law because the Constitution limited the practice to cases of emergency which, he said, does not apply to the election law.
"We will not accept that a gov-

ernment takes advantage of the pouse's recess to issue new legislations." he said.

A senior government official told the Jordan Times that the Brotherhood had offered the government a deal under which it would not campaign for increasing its seats in the House in return for a government commitment not to change the elections law.

The official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, did not say what the government's response to the offer was, but added that some cabinet members advised the prime minister against it because there would be no guarantee that the movement would not support candidates who do not officially belong to it but who would support its policies

in the next Parliament.

Muslim Brotherhood members denied the report, which could not be confirmed by other cabinet

There has been no such offer, said Brotherhood leader Abdul Rahman Khalifeh. "Any change in the elections law should pass through the House," he told the Jordan Times in a telephone inter-

Mr. Mansour, however, said that the movement, which has 23 members in the House, is not aiming for an absolute majority in the 80-member legislature. "We do not want to have a

monopoly on the House," he said, adding that the Brotherhood, whose candidates will contest the next elections under the IAF - umbrella, believes other sectors of society should be represented in the House.

Nor is the movement aiming for an immediate implementation of Islamic Sharia, said Mr. Mansour. "We believe in gradualism. We know that big leaps are fraught with danger," he said citing a

ônj

"pledge" by Mr. Badran at the opening of the first session of Parliament in January 1990 that Jordan would move towards the application of Islamic Sharia, Mr. Badran in that year signed a 14-point deal with the Brotherhood in order to gain its support for his

"Every step we make is carefully studied and there is no need to rush into things," he said. Change towards the application of sharia, which he described as a culture for ali Muslim and non-Muslim Jordanians, should be incremental, he

Observers believe the Brotherhood would not seek an absolute majority in the House in the next elections because such a step would undermine its overall policy of gradually consolidating its power without alarming government or members of society who fear the rise of radical Islam in the country. But other observers and officials believe that the movement cannot possibly gain a majority in the House anyway, and as such all talk of a necessary deal between the Islamists and the regime is out of

If the Brotherhood could obtain a majority in Parliament and pushed for Islamic law, it would run the risk of confrontation with the regime, eventually undermin-ing the whole democratic process, some analysts believe. If it could attain that majority but refrains from doing that, on the other hand, it would lose credibility with

its constituency which supported its Islamic platform, those analysts

say. Mr. Marsour rejected this argument saying his movement wants to see all shades of Jordan's political spectrum represented in the House with no one party dominating the others.

What we are extremely, very extremely, concerned with is the stability of the country," he said. Many Jordanians believe that a change in the elections law, which now gives voters as many votes as the number of candidates in their precincts, could work to the dis-

advantage of the Brotherhood. A large turnout by the Brother-hood supporters in the 1989 elections and a strong commitment to the movement's candidates enabled it to form alliances and obtain a number of seats disproportionate to the percentage of the popular vote it won then.

Accordingly, a one-man-vote system is widely expected to weaken the Brotherhood and send more independent candidates to the House.

Dr. Farhan, however, con-tended that the Islamist Action Front can deal with all developments, and its opposition to amending the law is rooted in its rejection of bypassing the House and the confusion of hurried changes rather than in the fear of a weaker performance in the elec-

"The front is ready for all developments," he said. "But to avoid any constitutional differences over one of the most important laws of democracy, the law should not be changed."

Rabin and Peres differ in public

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Peres had said that "ultimately a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation will be established from a political point of view." He said an economic framework would be established to incorpo-

rate all three partners: Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians. Mr. Peres has also urged discussion now of the final status of the occupied territories, even be-

interim period of autonomy. King urges increased exchange of views

(Continued from page 1)

The meeting, the second of its kind in a row, is held under the patronage of and chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Addressing the opening session, Prince Hassan called on the ulemas to follow the footsteps of good ancestors and be open to the changes and developments of the age.

He also called on them to spread the good word and to prepare the generations to assume an informed and effective role in lifting the Islamic Nation from the era of underdevelop-

progress. He noted that the Islamic heritage of jurisprudence enjoys a unique practical and comprehensive perspective, particularly in areas of zakat (alms) and care for orphans. Such a perspective can serve as a basis for a supportive and united society, he

fore agreement is reached at the

Middle East peace talks on an

pointed out. Many of the Islamic economic practices are proved very effective and powerful in meeting the needs of contemporary Islamic communities, he noted.

Taking part in the symposium are ulemas from Oman, Iran, Syria, Senegal, Morocco and Jordan in addition to representatives from the Londonbased Al Imam Al Khoui Found-

Sales tax may be delayed

(Continued from page 1) members of the government of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker are members of parliament. Most, if not all of them, are expected to seek reelection in the next polls and thus have to leave the cabinet.

The ministers of finance and planning — leading players in the so-called economic team within the Cabinet - are the main force in support of the sales tax, which comes in line with Jordan's economic restructuing programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Minister of Finance Basel Jar-

daneh and Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz are technocrats with no electorate to satisfy. They are credited with guiding the Kingdom's economy towards recovery over the past five years, and are seen as strongly committed to maintaining Jordan's record of strict adherence to the IMF prog-

In addition, the tax is expected to raise up to JD 125 million and thus contribute to the govern ment's drive to boost revenues and

cut expenditure (see page 3).

The issue assumes particular significance to the economic team since an IMF certification of Jordan's implementation of the prog-ramme is essential to clear the way for the Kingdom to reschedule its foreign debts. Rescheduling nego-tiations are coming up next month with the Paris Club of creditor governments and the Kingdom needs up to \$500 million for immediate debt repayments if no

agreement is secured,
Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour, another key member of the economic team, is a technocrat-turned-politician and he has made little public comment on the sales tax, most probably because he plans to seek reelection from his Salt constituency.

The whole issue of sales tax is highly sensitive and controversial," said a senior official. "There are strong reasons that warrant the imposition of the tax, but there is

also a strong opposition to it."

The senior official, who did not want to be identified by name, amented "the fact that many officials are convinced that the issue was not presented in its proper context" to the public. "Had it been well presented with the necessary explanations and clarifications, there would not have been so much opposition to it," he

The Cabinet was scheduled to discuss the issue during its regular session on Tuesday evening. But none of these interviewed officials would say with any degree of eccuracy what lay in store for the

"It is possible that a decision be taken to defer the sales tax until after the expected Cabinetr changes," said the senior-official. : "But nothing is clear, and it will be

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at this point in time. In the meantime, the industrial sector says it has presented its case to the government in its continuing battle against the sales tax and is awaiting positive action in response to complaints of its grie-

> Numerous meetings have been held between government officials and the private industrial sector represented by the Chamber o Industry, and the draft temporary law on sales tax has undergone some changes, but no final compromise has been worked out.

"The sales tax in its present form is unacceptable," said Ali Dajani, who is an advisor at the Chamber of Industry. "It will adversely affect the industrial sector since higher prices will mean lower coneption, particularly at a time when Jordan needs a boost in industrial production.

The Chamber of Industry re-leased advertisements in the local press last week informing the pub-lic of its opposition to the law and offering legal, technical and socionic reasons to support its

In addition, the chamber has also sent a cable to Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker appealing for his intervention.

Essentially, the Chamber of In-dustry, "which understands the government's commitment to the IMF programme and the inevitadelay the imposition of the sales tax until after closer studies are made on its impact on Jordanian industries as well as the socioeconomic condition in the country, Mr. Daiani said.

A delegation of economic ex-perts studied the Egyptian experience with the imposition of a similar sales tax and came ... 'he finding that it resulted in higher market prices and inflation and lower investments and economic activities, according to the Chamber of Industry.

One of the key arguments of the industrial sector is that the application of the sales tax cannot be equitable and it also undermines the interest of local industries: The tax will be levied at the factory selling price for local products which includes wages, manufactur-ing expenses and profits — while mported products will be taxed at

cost price.
This will allow imported products to gain a marked edge and lead to a situation where iordanian-made products have to compete with foreign equivalents in the local market, the Chamber

of Industry argues.

Amid the confusion, local traders and consumers have reportedly been hoarding many products ex-pected to be covered under the sales tax.

Acute shortages have not yet been felt in the market, but could appear if the situation remains

Israeli-Palestinian track serious

(Continued from page 1)

House - but separately. Mr. Clinton, said one official, would invite all the delegation heads to come together — just like Mr. Christopher did last week.

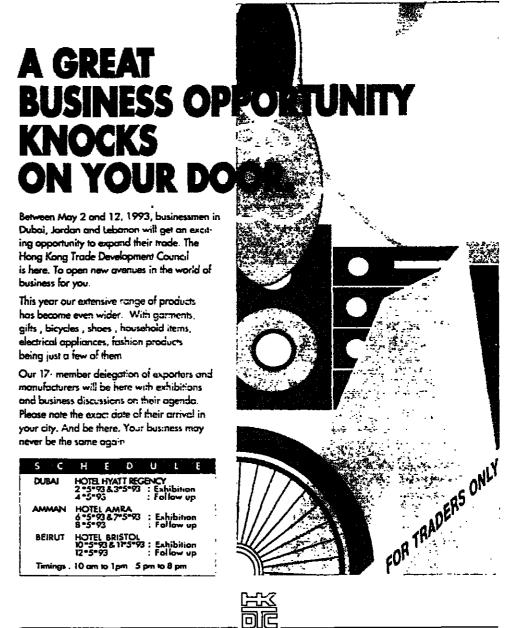
Arabs were to decide Tuesday whether to extend Middle East peace negotiations into next

Syria, Jordan and Lebanon see little, if any, progress in their talks with Israel, but Arab diplomats said they would probably decide Tuesday to stay another week if Palestinians wanted to

extend the talks. Israel has already said it agrees with a U.S. proposal to make the peace talks continuous from now

on, in order to speed up the peace process and avoid repeated bouts of bargaining over whether the Palestinians are going to attend or not.

Since the triumphant return of a first group of 15 long-term exiles on Friday, the Palestinians have been saying they feel they are finally achieving results after 18 months of largely sterile hag-



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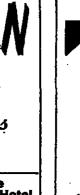
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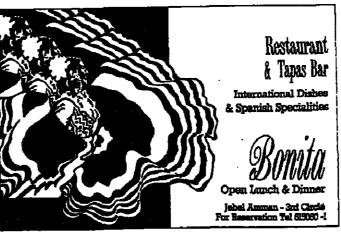
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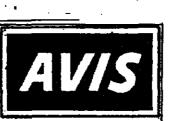
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Italian Open

Two seeds fall in opening session

 Lori McNeil and Nathalie Tauziat — were promptly sent packing by unfancied opponents when the women's Italian Open began Monday.

Local favourite Silvia Farina got the event off to a flying start when she beat McNeil, the 13th-seeded American, 5-7 6-2 6-2 in the opening match at the Foro Italico.

Then teenage Croatian Iva Majoli carried on where Farina left off

by blowing away the 10th seed, France's Tauziat, 6-1 6-2.

Majoli, 15 and ranked 798th on the women's computer at the start of last year, has had a startling rise to prominence in the last 15 months and new stands 37th in the rankings, with a goal of reaching

the top 10 this year. Her style and looks have invited comparisons with world number one Monica Seles and, like Seles, she left her native Yugoslavia to train in America and for the past three years has been a student at Nick Bollitieri's Tennis Academy in Florida.

"I like living in America but I haven't seen my friends back home for a year and a half and that worries me," she said with a distinct American twang in her accent.

"But I like Disneyworld, roller-coasters, McDonalds and pizza." Of Seles, she said: "We don't really know each other, we only say

hi, but people say that I look like her and play like her."
Farina, 20, who is ranked 131 places below McNeil-at 151 and has spent the last month playing on the satellite circuit, punished the American with her powerful forehand. It was the latest step in a mini-revival for the Italian who is battling

her way back from a disastrous form slump which saw her drop more than 100 places on the computer in 12 months. Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu, the 16th seed, became the first seed to reach the second round when she triumphed 6-3 6-4 over Argentina's

Bettina Fulco-Villella. Some semblance of order returned in the late afternoon when the next three seeds on court - France's Mary Pierce, Bulgarian Katerina Maleeva and Belarus's Natalia Zvereva — won in straight

Pierce, 18, the 11th seed, was pushed all the way, however, by American Shaun Stafford before prevailing 6-4 7-5. Maleeva, 23, 12th seeded and the second of the three tennis

playing sisters, needed a first set tiebreaker against Italian Gloria Pizzichini but cruised through the second to win 7-6 6-1. And Zvereva, the 15th seed, beat Austrian qualifier Sandra

The top eight seeds, led by Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, a last-minute replacement for stab-victim Seles, received byes into the second round.

Titleholder and number three seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, who has won this event four times in five years, begins against little-known dutch girl Claire Wegink.

Iraq dream of World Cup finals in USA

MANAMA (AFP) — A hot night in New York as a crowd of 70,000 gather at the Giants Stadium for one of the crucial matches of soccer's 1994 World Cup finals the United States against Iraq.

It sounds like fantasy, but a already preparing to make the dream of reaching the U.S.-

Along with trade, Iraqi sport has also suffered from the U.N. embargo which followed the invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

The country was banned from staging international matches at home, and was only allowed to take part in the 1994 World Cup qualifiers on condition they played all their games abroad.

But if Iraq does reach the World Cup finals in circumstances most teams would find intolerable, it would be considered an achievement for the country.

The Iraqis already represent a genuine threat on the football field. They were probably the best team in the Gulf during the 1980s, representing Asia at the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

"The mission of the Iraqi team is not easy, but not impossible,"

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YOU'RE UP!

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Mutt'n'Jeff

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WHICH I COULDN'T

SELL FOR YEARS

TO ANYBODY!-

WRONG MUTT?

says national team coach Adnan Derjal.

But the embargo has taken its toll, and the Olympic Committee of Iraq was forced in March to cancel team preparations because of "financial difficulties in Iraq squad of 28 Iraqi players are caused by the unjust embargo, Since then, under pressure from the Iraqi sporting public, hosted World Cup finals a reality. the OCI has worked hard with foreign teams to organise friendly matches abroad considered vita preparation for the World Cup qualifiers.

> The national team drew two matches away to South Korea 1-1 and 2-2 last April, a few weeks after winning twice and drawing once during a short tour of Bul-

For security reasons, none of these games were announced in Baghdad.

Iraq's World Cup trail starts on May 22 in the first Asia Zone elimination round, to be played at Irbid, Jordan.

Iraq will play in Group A with Jordan, Yemen, Pakistan and the favourities China. The winners qualify for the second round in

ALL THE PRESSURE

IS ON ME, BUT I

KNOW I CAN

CAN DO IT! I

DO 1T...

SO HE DECIDES TO

MAKE A GARDEN,

I'LL DIG SOME

POST HOLES AND

FENCE IT

JUST DON'T

GET NERVOUS.

I STRUCK

Manchester continue celebrations with three more goals

MANCHESTER (AFP) — Jubilation burst like a tidal wave on Old Trafford Monday night when Manchester United completed their first championship winning season in a quarter of a century with a 3-1 home win over Blackburn Rovers.

As the home side scored their 23rd win in 41 games and captain Steve Bruce and Bryan Robson hoisted the Premier League trophy high in the night air, scenes joyous pandemonium broke out in and around the ground.

It was the moment Manchester United fans had been waiting for since the glory days under Sir Matt Busby when Bill Foulkes' team were champions back in

And as the frustration and heartbreaks of the long wait finally ended, the celebrations threatened to overwhelm current manager Alex Ferguson and his

More than 40,000 fans inside the ground and countless year with their awards.
thousands outside hailed their Blackburn, who neede conquering heroes and continued the party which had begun more than 24 hours earlier when title rivals Aston Villa dropped out of contention after being beaten by Oldham.

The first giant roar Monday night greeted former star players George Best and Dennis Law reminders of that last great era who were there to watch the

team and there was no holding area tackle or back when Bobby Charlton, not whistled.



Manchester United captain Steve Bruce (left) crowns Bryan Robson with the Premier League trophy at Old Trafford. Manchester United became the British soccer champions after rivals Aston Villa lost to Oldham Sunday (AFP photo).

another of the last championshipwinning team, presented the reserve and young players of the

Blackburn, who needed to win their last three games to pip Villa and earn a place in next season's UEFA Cup, did their best to spoil the celebrations and Kevin Gallacher's brilliant finish with the outside of his left foot from Tim Sherwood's eighth minute cross hit the top far corner with Peter Schmeichel stationary.

If referee Jim Borrett had not been so generous to the new champions, they could have been And the party began in earnest two down within three more mi-with the announcement of the nutes. But Paul Parker's penalty area tackle on Jason Wilcox was

Welsh wizard Ryan Giggs levelled the score with a sensational 22nd minute free-kick from 25 yards which he blasted into the top left-hand corner, and only Bobby Mimms' flying save denied Lee Sharpe ten minutes later. United sent on that old

second-half that was pure theatre with a pageant of flags, Mexican waves and community singing. They were rewarded when Paul Ince cracked them into the lead from a 60th minute chance cre-

warhorse Bryan Robson for a

ated by Hughes and French international Eric Cantona. There were more cameos world class save by Schmeichel, a standing ovation for former favourite Kevin Moran and book-

at Old Trafford next season. Cantona, interviewed by French daily Le Equipe Tuesday, was asked about his plans for 1993-94 after two seasons in England. "I would like to be a European

> Alex Ferguson next season. I don't know, I've got two months on holiday and a lot of things could happen. The sunsets are beautiful everywhere. In the Camargue, in England, in Spain... for the moment I feel

champion with Manchester,"

said, but later added that he did

not know if he would stay with

ings for Bruce and Ince, slightly

souring the night.

And then, fittingly and in the

last minute. Gary Pallister crashed in the 20-yard free-kick

to put the seal on a magnificent

Cantona undecided

about United

French striker Eric Cantona.

who has helped Manchester Un-

ited to their first league title since

1967, still doesn't know if he'll be

really great bere." "I don't feel good here tomorrow, I'll leave, but I would have to talk to the club chiefs. I still have three years of my contract to

Meanwhile, the unpredictable Frenchman paid tribute to the English game and said it had developed his goal-scoring skills.

"What I've learned most here goals. Scoring... I've really understood that it makes people remember all the other things you

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MAY 5, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The double square to Mars from the Moon in the AM and Mercury in the PM preceed the Full Moon in Scorpio in the early evening when the Moon opposes the Sun making people restless, stubborn and irri-

ARIES: March 21 to April 19) You are inspired to go after the person-al interests that mean the most to you which is excellent all day long, tonight expect some unusual event.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A surprise intimate situation arises at can be of much benefit to your future so look at it from this angle. tonight make your surroundings more attractive.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) There are a number of personal goals that can become a part of goass man can become a part of your life by putting some progres-sive efforts into attaining then, tonight avoid a tift with attach-

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Put some extra activities of a current nature into your usual outside interests and you succeed much better in them, tonight avoid

LEO: (July 22 August 21) This is the moment for you to be off and away to exciting new conditions that intrigue you so up and at them early, tonight enjoy simple enter-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have a sudden awareness how you can perform some practical matters different than you have. ever done them before, tonight avoid an argument at home.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Contact whatever unusual personalities you know and get the benefit of their up to date stand points, then tonight avoid accidents on the highway or in motion.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A day to consider your workload for the coming time and how you can best perform it so that you have greater operative skill for YOUR SUCCESS.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Think about the things that you most enjoy doing and how you can enjoy them more from a varied aspect and you can have a marvelous time.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Your home should be the centre of your activities and approached from a new and different angle which would greatly please your own household.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Look for the various schools of thought and ideas of life that have proven acceptable to others but you have not known and study them with care.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This would be a good day for you to utilise some spare time to consider just where you stand where money and property interests are concerned.

THE BETTER HALF By Glasbergen GIAGRERGEN

"When corn shoots our of your ears that's a good sign you're eating too fast!"

Hornets, Rockets take 2-1 lead in NBA playoffs

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (Agencies) — The Charlotte Hornets and Houston Rockets scored dominating wins Monday to take 2-1 leads in the best-of-five first round of the NBA playoffs. In Charlotte, Larry Johnson scored 21 of his game-high 29 points in the second half and Dell Curry scored 14 of his 27 in the decisive second quarter as the Hornets routed the Boston Celtics 119-89 to go

up 2-1 in their opening-round Eastern Conference playoffs. Charlotte led by just one point at 35-34 with 8:47 left in the second quarter but reeled off 15 points in a row, including 10 from Curry, for a 50-34 lead. The Hornets outscored Boston 32-16 in the second

Boston, which suffered its worst playoff loss since 1984, played without leading scorer Reggie Lewis, who collapsed in Boston's 112-101 game one win over the Hornets Thursday.

Boston, which is making its 14th consecutive playoff appearance, was led by Kevin Gamble's 19 points and Kevin McHale's 15. In Los Angeles, Hakeem Olajuwon had 32 points and 12 rebounds and Otis Thorpe added 22 points to lead the Houston Rockets to a 111-99 victory over the Clippers and stand one win away from taking their opening-round Western Conference playoff ser

The Rockets, who regained home court advantage after a shock defeat in Houston Saturday, were in control almost the entire game. They led 30-22 after the first quarter and outscored the Clippers 25-18 in the second quarter for a 55-40 advantage.

Olajuwon was 14-of-20 from the field and also had four blocks.

The Rockets, coming off a franchise-record 55 wins, have won 30 of their last 37 games and 43 of their last 55.

The Clippers, looking to advance to the second round of the

playoffs for the first time in franchise history, were led by Danny Manning's 23 points and Mark Jackson's 21. Meanwhile, Boston Celtics star Reggie Lewis was diagnosed with potentially life-threatening heart problems Monday that in all

likelihood will end his career.

likelihood will end his career.

Celtics team physician Dr. Arnold Scheller said it was a "strong probability" Lewis will have to give up basketball. Lewis, against the team's wishes, has sought a second opinion at another hospital. Scheller did hold out some hope that Lewis' condition could improve to the point where he could resume playing.

"I'm probably one of the most optimistic people you'll ever meet," he said. "With modern technology, there may be changes, but it would have to be controlled with medication and other things."

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SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Delecour heads for the tape

AJACCIO (AFP) - Francois Delecour was on course for victory in the Tour of Corsica Rally Tuesday, as he beat off a challenge from fellow Frenchman Didier Auriol. Delecour, at the wheel of a Ford Escort Cosworth, held a 49 second lead over the Toyota Celica driver as they neared the halfway stage on the final day. Auriol piled on the pressure, but was only able to knock two seconds off Delecour's lead as they headed here from Bastia. Auriol's teammate Francois Chatriot was in third place, 1 minute 50 seconds off the pace, with Spanish world champion Carlos Sainz lying a distant fourth in a Lancia Delta.

Ivanisevic, Proic accused of vandalism

HARARE (AFP) - Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic and Goran Proic have been accused wrecking their changing room after losing the doubles match in last, weekend's Davis Cup tie here against Zimbasage. The incident allegedly occurred after Sunday's match in the Euro-African Zone Group One second round tie: City Council official Lovemore Malianga told the Herald newspaper. Tuesday that "these guys went beserk. They broke the shower pipes and smashed soft drink bottles against the walls. The whole changing room was in a mess." The paper accompanied its report with pictures of the wrecked room. The allegations were denied though by Sadan Ivanisevic, vice-chairman of the Croatian Tennis

Sports team delays departure in airline dispute

TAIPEI (AP) - Taiwan's delegation to the East Asian Games in Shanghai had to postpone its departure Tuesday because of a dispute between China and Taiwan over the use of an airliner. Officials fear the 203-member contingent may miss the opening ceremony of the games Sunday unless the problem is resolved quickly. The delegation originally had planned to leave for Shanghai via Hong Kong on a plane chartered from the British colony's Cathay Pacific Airways. Officials said, however, Chinese authorities rejected the idea because Cathay Pacific does not have landing rights in Shanghai, and in turn suggested the Taiwan team fly to Hong Kong and take a plane belonging to China Eastern Airlines, owned by China. Taiwan officials rejected the idea of using a China-owned airline.

UAE trounce Bangladesh 7-0 in World Cup tie

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates kept alive their slender hopes off reaching the second round of the World Cup Asian Zone Monday when they trounced Bangladesh 7-0. The victory puts the UAE in second place in Group F, equal on points with leaders Japan but with a poorer goal difference to the Japanese, who have played one match fewer. Victory for Japan over Sri Lanka Wednesday would mean the UAE would need to beat the undefeated Japanese by at least three goals in their final match Friday. Meanwhile Saudi Arabia almost went down to host Malaysia in the first leg of the Asian Group E World Cup soccer Monday night. But a last minute disputed penalty awarded to the Saudis allowed them to equalize and end the game at 1-1 at Merdeka Stadium.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

IT'S THE RIGHT TIME Both vulnerable South deals.

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Opening lead: Four of ♡ If we were asked to give just one piece of advice to bridge players, it would be three little words: Count your tricks! You would be surprised how often a task you learned in childhood can steer you to the win-

Consider this hand where routine bidding lands North-South in a contract of three no trump. After the

opening lead, declarer can count two tricks each in spades and hearts and one in diamonds. Therefore, four tricks in clubs will suffice to land the Is there any risk to the contract?

Yes. If East can gain the lead early and shift to a diamond, there is the possibility that the defenders can collect three diamond tricks, a heart and a club before South can reel in nine tricks.
With the disease diagnosed, the cure is simple. Since two heart tricks are guaranteed no matter what, win the ace of hearts at trick one! Next lead a club and simply

cover any card East produces. Here the nine of clubs will be covered by the jack and West will be welcome to take the queen. West can do nothing to harm you. A heart will set up a second trick for you; a diamond into your A 10 gives you two stoppers in that suit with time to set up another red-suit trick. The safe return is a spade, but you

the fulfilling trick by leading another heart immediately.

The right time to win the ace of hearts was at the very first trick.

can win that on the board and set up

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold Unscramble these four Jumbles, —Couldn't care less one letter to each square, to lonn STYTA **MIRPE** HUNGOE WHAT YOU MIGHT GET FROM A SENATOR. DESAUB Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: " Jumbles: BASSO ARMOR TACKLE STUCCO

Answer: What the twelve bottles of moonshine eventually became -- A COURT CASE

THE Daily Crossword by Joel Davajan 1 Military post 5 Platters 10 Reced 14 Baltic feeder

band 21 Grumbles

elephant 38 Prunes 39 A Marx

40 Inventor's initials 41 Dissolve

45 Anti-knock

number

quarters? 52 Lane/tabby

goddess 55 Wickiup kin

56 British peer 57 Rational

DOWN

58 Onset 59 Philippine chief

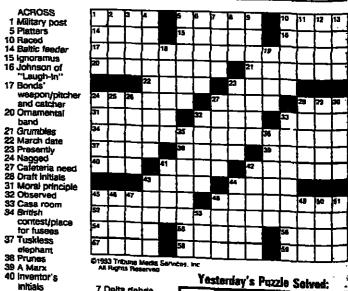
1 "Georgia Poach" 2 Jewish month 3 Tableland 4 Sheer cliff

5 Rang up 6 Waits for the

48 Bowser's

54 Rainbow

42 Lurch



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hometown 23 Zones

24 US novelist, Ben 25 Open courts 26 Before stone or

27 Entice 28 British sword 29 Lift locale 30 Anglo follower 32 Shoulder wrap 33 Observant 35 Earth, sir, fire,

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BRIT FLOAL SAVINGE INVESTMENT
LAND BROMPHE A INVESTMENT
JORGAN FRENCH INSURANCE
JORGANIAN ELECTRIC POWER
JORGAN HOTEL & TOURISH
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Financial



Сштелсу	New York Close Dute 3/5/93	HongKong Close
Sterling Pound	1 5665	1.5705
Deutsche Mark	1.5795	1.5778
Swiss Franc	1.4280	1.4220
French Franc	5.3210	5.3146 **
Japanese Yen	110.75	110.40
European Curreny Unit	1.2368-	1.2389 **
USO Per STG		•

Eurocurrency Interest Ra			Date: 4/5	/1993
Currency	1 MIH	3 MTES	6 MTHS	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	3.00	3.12	3.15	3.37
Sterling Pound	5.93	5.87	6.00	6.12
Deutsche Mark	7.68	7.56	7.25	6.75
Swiss Franc - 3.8	3.20	. 4.87	4.72	4.37
French Franc	8.96	7.68	7.50	7:31
Japanese Yea	3.09	3.78	3.18	3.28
European Currency Unit	8.50	8.25	8.12	7.62

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		. Water: 4/5/1993		
Сигтевсу	Bid :	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0.6220	6840		
Sterling Pound	1.0699	1.0752		
Deutsche Mark	0.4314	0.4336		
Swiss Franc	0.4779	0.4803		
French Franc	0.1280	0.1286		
Japanese Yen*	0.6167	0.6198		
Dutch Guilder	0.3842	0.3861		
Swedish Krona	0.0933	0.0938		
Palian Lira*	0.0462	0.0464		
Belgian Franc	0.02099	0.02109		

Other Currencies	Date: 4/5/1993	
Corrency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	-1.7900	1.8300
Lebanese Lira*	0-038425	0.040525
Saudi Riyal	0.1815	0.1830
Kuwalti Dinar	2.2250	2.2750
Qalari Riyal	0.1845	0.1865
Egyptism Pound	0.1950	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7390	1_7700
UAE Dirham	0.1845	0.1865
Greek Drachma*	0.3172	0.3472
Cyprict Pound	1.4350	1.4650

Index	28/4/1993 Close	3/5/1993 Close
All-Share	198.37	199.28
Banking Sector	137.41	137.70
Insurance Sector	212.59	212.28
Industry Sector	283.35	285.04
Services Sector	262.47	265.31

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the Version Formula on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

> Canadian dollar Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.2715/20
•	1.5745/55
	1.7685/95
•	1.4212/22
-	32.36/40
-	5.3075/125
	1469/1472
	110.45/55
	7.2900/3100
. •	6.6625/725
	6.0550/650
One steeling	\$1.5730/40
One sterling	31.37.30.46

One ownce of gold \$353.60/354.10

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Demand Social Development and the rest years ago to finance internal trade is picking up as the effects of the Gulf war on regional relations begin to ease.

From virtually nothing in 1990, the Arab Trade Fund Programme (ATFP) received 31 financing applications in 1991 and 74 applications in 1992. Their value totalled around \$258 million. "The volume of financing

activity was still modest in 1991 as the Arab region had not yet overcome the repercussions of the Gulf war," the Abu Dhabi-based fund said in a report. "We can consider 1992 as the starting year for real operations by the programme.

ATFP was set up in 1990 at the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), which contributed half of its capital of \$500 million. About fund three years ago, its chairman, Osama Al Faqih, who also heads the AMF, said ATFP re-

for an Arab fund created three by other Arab and foreign banks and financial institutions.

The fund, which could be expanded later, finances only local products, except oil, in a bid to encourage Arab exporters.

ATFP has a financing capacity of \$1 billion a year and so far it has approved nearly \$168 million in credits to commercial transactions involving Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan, Alger-Egypt and Oman.

Unlike its sponsor, the AMF, which is suffering from nearly \$600 million in arrears, ATFP operations appear to be running "The parties that have benefit-

all their dues. By the end of 1992, there were no arrears," the ATFP report said. Announcing the creation of the

ted from ATFP credits have paid

moved one of several obstacles blocking inter-Arab trade, such as customs barriers, political differences, and transport, marketing and storage problems.

An AMF report showed inter-Arab exports stood at \$10.2 billion in 1991 and imports at \$9.8 billion. This kept inter-Arab trade at below 10 per cent of the total Arab trade of nearly \$220

"There are several reasons for the low trade exchange among the Arab countries. Some of them have an administrative nature, including customs and noncustoms barriers," the AMF

study said. "Others have an economic nature, especially the inability of some countries to export or import. This is coupled with the absence of proper services needed to develop trade, including communication, marketing, trade data and services related to financing and guarantee."

Bundesbank holding rates this week

bank is unlikely to cut its key interest rates when it meets Thursday, economists here said Tuesday, but leading forecasting institutes urged the bank to cut money market rates by two points

this year. Against a background of new forecasts that the German economy is set to decline by 1.5 per cent this year, BHF Bank eco-nomist Stefan Riecke, expressing the widely-held view that key rates would not be cut Thursday: The last reduction of key rates in the economic situation." was made only two weeks ago." The six leading German economic institutes said Tuesday that

central council of the Bundes- a policy would reduce these rates to about six per cent.

At the economic institute of Kiel University, Klaus-Werner Schatz said that such a reduction of short-term rates, which can be influenced directly by the central bank through its key rates and repurchase rates, would "boost Mr. Schatz said that the in-

verted yield curve "will become normal during the second half of the year" and was vital if there were to be a "lasting turn around. The institutes of Berlin, Ham-

burg, Munich, Kiel, Halle and Essen said that "faster reductions the Bundesbank should engineer in key rats... are perfectly in line a two-point cut in money market with the principles of a policy for

FRANKFURT (AFP) - The rates by the end of the year. Such a stable money supply and

growth." On April 22 the Bundesbank reduced its discount rate by one quarter of a point to 7.25 per cent and its Lombard rate by half a point to 8.50 per cent. The repurchase rate last week

was reduced by one third of a point to 7.75 per cent. Mr. Biecke said that consequently the bank did not have much room for manoeuvre for the immediate fu-

Bundesbank Director Hans Tietsheyer, who is expected to be the next president of the bank said last Thursday that he did not know whether rates would be held at current levels and that the outlook depended on the "reaction of the markets."

Arab trade fund demand picks up | German strike spreads as employers, union talk

DRESDEN, Germany (R) -Union and management officials tried Tuesday to end eastern Germany's first strike in 60 years, but neither side predicted a quick settlement as the walkouts over

pay spread to Baltic shipyards. It was the first formal meeting in four weeks. The strike in the region's steel and engineering sector began Monday in protest at broken management promises

engineering and steel workers were out on strike Tuesday, almost double Monday's total. But union officials said that. even if a settlement were hammered out now, the strikers could

A total of 30,000 IG Metall

not return to work until next Monday at the earliest because a vote would have to be taken on any agreement. "There has been movement in

that the two sides are talking with each other again for the first time in four weeks," Jens Kort, spokesman for the employers. said. "But no one knows what the outcome of these talks will be."

IG Metall spokeswoman Marlis Dahne said: "Everything remains open, but at least negotiations are taking place."

One official close to the talks who spoke to Renters on the condition of anonymity said that employers were willing to back away from their controversial decision to cancel the existing contract that would have given workers pay rises of up to 26 per cent ckdated to April 1.

"The extraordinary cancellation has been pushed out of the way and the existing contract is

In exchange, the union was

prepared to extend by perhaps one year to 1995 the point when eastern wages reach parity with basic western pay levels, the official said.

Employers had agreed in 1991 to pay rises ranging from 21 to 26 per cent from April 1, but for the first time since the end of World War II they unilaterally cancelled the contract and offered pay rises of nine per cent instead.

Hans Peter Muenter, head of the Saxony state employers negotiating team, confirmed on his way into the meeting that a key aspect of Tuesday's talks would be how to deal with the extraordinary cancellation of the existing pay deal. But he declined to

"We'll just have to start the talks and see what happens," be said. "A key point is how to deal with the problem of the extraordinary contract cancellation."

The talks began about an hour later than scheduled at a Dresden Hotel. Saxony's Premier Kurt Biedenkopf, who moderated four hours of preliminary talks between the two sides Monday night, was also attending the closed-door meeting Tuesday.

The strike had affected about 16,000 steel and engineering workers Monday in Brandenburg state of eastern Germany's industrial heartland in Saxony. It spread to 24 shipyards and metalworking plants along he Baltic coast early Tuesday.

Although German television had said that about 50,000 work- ask too much of companies." ers would be on strike Tuesday, IG Metall said the number of non-members were also idled.

Dollar slides

NEW YORK (AFP) - The dol-

lar slipped against other major

currencies Tuesday amid signs that the U.S. economic recovery

Gold meanwhile rose to

The dollar was trading at

1.5720 German marks from

1.5306 late Monday 110.30 yen

The U.S. currency also fell to

5.2970 French francs from 5.3265

late Monday, 1.4180 Swiss francs

against 1.4275 and 0.6537 pounds

\$355.80 per ounce from \$354.40

may be faltering

at Monday's close,

sterling from 0.6390.

from 110.85.

IG Metall President Franz Steinkuehler told shipyard workers in Rostock the strike was not about money itself. "Rather it is about breaking contracts, which cannot be tolerated," he said.

The strike, which could engulf all five East German states by mid-May if no settlement is reached, was the region's first major work stoppage since Adolf Hitler banned free trade unions in 1933. Soviet tanks crushed the only other labour protests since then, the desperate wildcat strikes of June 1953.

Kohl steps up pressure

Chancellor Helmut Kohl Tuesday warned that the strike in the incering and steel industries "is damaging the process of re-construction" in the east of the

Speaking at the opening of a printing works near Leipzig, he said that consequently it was important for unions and employers "to return to the negotiating table with a serious desire to reach agreement.

Until now Mr. Kohl had merely asked employers and the IG Metall union to settle their differences "without losing sight of the common good and the economic

Mr. Kohl said: "While it may be understandable that employees want to obtain a rapid alignment of their pay with rates in the west, it is also vital not to

The two sides should bear in mind the difficult conditions facing the two industries affected striking members was about ing the two industries affected 30,000. A further 5,000 to 8,000 and should "put job security

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New rates help stability, Kuwait central bank says

have positive effects on monetary show. stability and help improve the Under the new terms banks can

improve the performance of rise in the maximum. banking sector units," Sheikh in a statement to Reuters.

The changes include a discount rate cut to 7.0 per cent from 7.5 The ch per cent and allow banks greater previous maximum. flexibility in fixing minimum interest rates on deposits and maximum rates on loans.

"Despite the decrease in the rise. discount rate, the differential bedinar," he added in his written cent previously. statement.

nied the application of interest sector dinar deposits with local

with commercial banks grew from more.

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's cen- 3.74 billion dinars (\$12.3 billion) tral bank governor said domestic in January 1992 to 4.16 billion interest rates changes that took dinars (\$13.7 billion) in Decemeffect-Monday were expected to ber 1992, central bank figures

performance of the banking sys- set rates on dinar-denominated loans of more than one year-at-up The new structure is expected to a maximum of four pentage to have positive effects on monetary stability in Kuwait and to help in effect a cone percengate point Rates for loans of up to one

Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said year may be set at up to a maximum of 2.5 percentage points above the discount rate.

The maximum rate on consumer loans becomes the 7.0 per cent discount rate, a one percentage

-Banks will continue to be able tween interest rates on the dinar to deduct interest in advance, and those on other various major producing an effective consumer currencies will continue to be loan interest rate of more than 12 high and in favour of the Kuwaiti per cent compared to 11.75 per

The new discount rate becomes "This differential will help sup- the minimum rate on private secport the continuation of the posi- tor deposits of 30 days and more. tive developments that accompa- The governor said the move gives "local banks more flexibility in rate levels on the dinar, represetting interest rate levels on desented in the growth of private posits of various maturities." Previously minimum rates were 7.5 per cent for 30 to 90 days and

Death of Taybeh

By: Suheir Fahd, Mohammad Al Qabba-

ni, Amer Al Khafash

Private sector dinar deposits eight per cent for 91 days and

Egypt to merge or liquidate underfunded banks

dards, a central bank official said

merged into Egypt's national Investment Bank under central bank guidance over the past few months and more had applied for

Egypt, hit by financial scandal in the 1980s when unregulated Islamic investment houses lost confidence in the banking system as part of its free-market reform

per cent of their assets against not happened in the past. depositor demands. Egypt has of the year to do so.

CAIRO (R) - Egypt is putting ready to use its discretionary its 101 banks under tighter supervision and will forcibly merge or liquidate banks that fail to boost 50 million pounds (\$15 million) capital to meet international stan-specified in a law passed last year,

"If these small banks succeed in boosting their capital, all well Deputy-Governor Mohammad and good. If not, they will have to Al Barbari Salt in an interview find another bank to merge with that 13 small provincial banks had or be liquidated, Mr. Barbari told Reuters.

Deposits in Egyptian banks have jumped by 50 per cent to more than 160 billion pounds (\$48 billion) in the past six months and are still rising as Egyptian holdings overseas are billions of dollars of small deposi-tors' money, is trying to rebuild which is holding steady against which is holding steady against the U.S. dollar.

Mr. Barbari said the central Mr. Barbari said all but five bank was boosting its auditing banks had met Bank of Interna- staff to make sure that all banks tional Settlement (BIS) standards in Egypt were inspected at least requiring them to set aside eight once a year, something which had

He also said central bank offigiven the remainder until the end cials were on a World Banksponsored programme to learn He added that if the central how to manage Egypt's \$14.8 bank thought it necessary, it was billion in foreign reserves.

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Candidates, should have a B.A. in English, demonstrated competance in teaching, and training in educational methods related to English teaching.

Applications will be received at the reception office of Bishop's School until Saturday, May 22, 1993, or contact the school administration at Tel. No. 624334/653877.

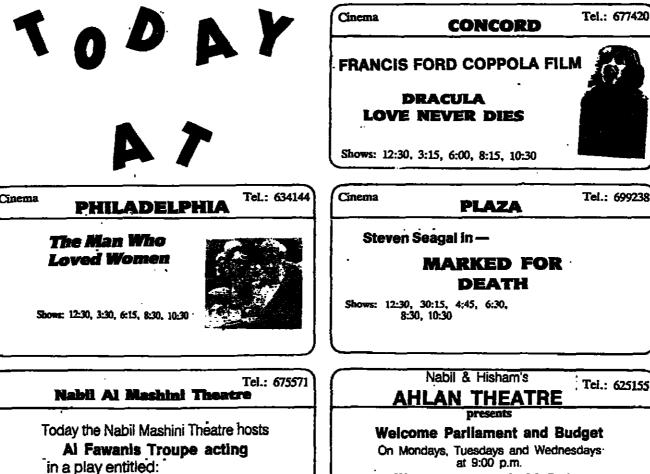
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U.N. policeman killed, 8 hurt in suspected Khmer Rouge ambush

PHNOM PENH (AFP) -Japanese policeman with the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Cambodia was killed and three were wounded along with five Dutch Marines Tuesday when suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked their convoy with rockets and assault rifles in northeast Cambodia, U.N. and Japanese officials said.

"It has been established this has a deliberate attack against UNTAC," U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia spokesman Eric Falt said.

Inspector Haruyuri Takata, 32, was killed on the spot, Mr. Falt said, but a Japanese embassy official in Bangkok said two other Japanese were conscious after treatment for wounds in the Royal Thai Air Force hospital where they had been taken by helicopter along with four of the

There was no immediate word on the condition of the Dutch in Bangkok.

Two U.N. electoral workers from Norway and several Indian

mine clearers were in the convoy

but escaped uninjured, Mr. Falt

Sri Lanka

1st arrest

police make

over killing

of president

COLOMBO (AFP) - Sri Lank-

an police made their first arrest

Tuesday in connection with the

assassination of President Rana-

singhe Premadasa as Prime

Minister Dingiri Banda Wijetun-

ga was set to take over as head of

Detective Superintendent

Lionel Gunatilake said police

were questioning a man they be-lieve was closely linked to the suspected Tamil Tiger guerrilla

who carried out Saturday's

suicide bombing at a May Day

as K. Saman Sujeeva, a grocer

from the majority Sinhalese com-

"We brought this man (Su-

jeeva) in this morning and we

some light on the case. We are in

the process of interrogating him,"

He said Mr. Sujeeva was be-

lieved to be the "contact man"

for the attacker who blew Mr.

Premadasa to pieces and killed 23

other people, including seven

policemen forming the inner circle of presidential bodyguards.

The arrest came as parliament

Mr. Wijetunga, who has been

serving as acting president since Mr. Premadasa's death, is almost

certain to get the job unopposed

for the 19 months remaining on

Parliament Secretary-General

Nihal Seneviratne announced

that Friday would be the date for

receiving nominations for presi-

dent. Mr. Premadasa's United

Nations Party (UNP) has said

Mr. Wijetunga was its candidate.

the 225-legislative assembly and

in the event of an opposition

member of parliament entering the fray a ballot should be held

Mr. Wijetunga has already

vowed to continue Mr. Premada-

sa's economic policies and said

there should be no cause for

concern among foreign and local investors or the business com-

Dozens of police commandos

within 28 hours.

munity.

The UNP has 125 members in

his predecessor's tenure.

met briefly to set Friday as the

day to choose a new president

from among his MPs.

Mr. Gunatilake said.

Police named the arrested man

rally here.

Mr. Takata's death was the first fatality among Japanese security forces serving in Cambodia, and it was certain to bring pressure on Tokyo to review its peacekeeping role in the country.

The midday attack near Ampil in the resistance zone near the Thai border - which is controlled politically by the FUNCIN-PEC party but militarily by the Khmer Rouge — occurred as the armed Dutch soldiers were leading a convoy of six vehicles, Mr. Falt said.

"A group of unidentified armed men fired a B-40 (rocket) round on the lead vehicle before opening fire on the convoy with (automatic weapons)," he said.
U.N. officials said the Khmer.

Rouge were suspected of the attack, and Mr. Falt compared it with an ambush Monday blamed on the Khmer Rouge in eastern Kompong Cham province which left five Indian peacekeepers in-

Apart from 75 policemen, Japan also has 600 troops in Cambodia, mainly on engineerand assault rifles for about 10 to ing work away from danger 15 minutes, he said.

zones. They were sent after a fierce domestic debate and a change in the law to allow the deployment of Japanese military overseas for the first time since World War II.

On April 22 Japanese deputy Defence Minister Arira Hiyoshi has quoted as saying in Kuala Lumpur that political pressures. would force Tokyo to review its peacekeeping role in Cambodia if any of its personnel were killed or

The ambush came one day after the Khmer Rouge attacked the northern tourist city of Siem Reap, briefly holding the airport before being repulsed by Phnom Penh government troops. They also exchanged fire with U.N.

In Monday's ambush in Kompong Cham four Indians were lightly wounded by shrapnel, while a fifth had his leg ampu-

The Khmer Rouge ambushed the convoya of three vehicles with rocket-propelled grenades

"The Indian troops retaliated very vigorously," Mr. Falt said, with six rounds of 60mm mortar plus 300 rounds of automatic weapon and machine-gun fire. Trial is

a farce —

ex-east

German

spymaster.

DUESSELDORF, Germany

(AFP) — East Germany's spy-

master Markus Wolf went on trial

here Tuesday, and immediately

went on the offensive, lashing the

proceedings as a farce and chal-

lenging the court to prove any

charges against him. He launched the attack after

hearing prosecutors read a dozen

charges of treason and corrup-

tion, listing famous cases that were a rollcall of Mr. Wolf's

success during 33 years as espion-

Guenter Guillaume, a mole who

penetrated west German Chan-

cellor Willy Brandt's office and

triggered his downfall in 1974,

and Gabriele Gast, a top-level

double agent imbedded in the

west German secret service. Mr. Wolf, 70, sun-tanned and

dressed in a smart grey suit, then

and "legally untenable."
"Which state am I supposed to

have betrayed?" he asked, sar-casm dripping off his tongue. He pointed out that during the

cold war, both east Germany and

west Germany gave legal protec-

tion to their spying services. As a former Citizen of the German Democratic Republic (GDR, East Germany), Mr. Wolf said, he should be tried under the laws

that pertained in that country at

If convicted, Mr. Wolf faces

Mr. Wolf's lawyers tried in vain

between one year and up to life in

to have the trial suspended until the Federal Constitutional Court,

Germany's top legal authorities,

rules on a test case involving Mr.

Wolf's successor as head of the

east German foreign espionage

That case was referred to the

top federal judges by a Berlin

state court, which said under

German law, German citizens are

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korean

Deputy in Minister Han Wang-Sain said Tuesday econo-

mic sanctions against Pyongyang

would be "inevitable" if North

lear Non-Proliferation Treaty

"If North Korea does not re-

turn to NPT by the time the Security Council has indicated,

then economic sanctions appear

to be inevitable," he told a full

session of parliament, according

to Yonhap News Agency.

service, Werner Grossmann.

the time.

hit at the accusations as "absurd"

Among them was the case of

The Kompong Cham attack occurred in the same district and in the same manner in which a Colombian civilian police officer was killed Friday night. The United Nations has not assessed blame for that attack

Prince Sihanouk issued a statement Tuesday condemning the resurgence of factional warfare in his homeland and warning that the nation's very existence is -at stake.

"Our Cambodia will not survive unless my armed compatriotsagreed to reconcile their difference and achieve a complete peace among them," Prince Sihanouk said in the statement, faxed to news organisations.

"The problems which divide them at the moment can and must be resolved by peaceful means. They must agree to send me competent representatives to try, together and with my help, to find good solutions to these prob-

Ú.S. embassy employee held on spy charge

WASHINGTON (AP) - The FBI Monday accused an American employee of the U.S. embassy in Athens of spying but did not disclose details of the charges.

The employee, Steven Lalas 40, of Dover, N.H., was held without bail after a brief Federal court hearing in Alexandria, Va. He was advised of his rights by U.S. Magistrate Barry Poretz, who will hold another hearing Wednesday to determine whether there is probable cause to continue to hold Mr. Lalas without

The contents of an affidavit detailing the charges against him were not made public. The FBI said it arrested Mr.

Lalas Friday in northern Virginnia just outside of Washington,

requested anonymity said Mr. Lalas, a communications officer, had top secret clearance with access to cables assessing U.S. policy toward Greece.

The FBI is trying to determine whether Mr. Lalas began his alleged espionage activity in Greece or had already started while in Turkey on a previous tour, said an official who spoke only on condition of anonymity. Among the material he would

have had access to at both postings is cable traffic relating to NATO, in which both Turkey and Greece are members, said the official. While both are U.S. allies, Greece and Turkey are historic rivals.

New York Newsday reported that Mr. Lalas also had access to voluminous cable traffic concerning the situation in Bosnia and other parts of former Yugoslavia. The FBI refused to say whether

NEW YORK (AP) - Children

in the Branch Davidian cult com-

pound say they were paddled for

trifling sins, told to call their parents "dogs" and that some

girls were sexually abused by cult

The children, who left the com-

pound during the siege by federal

agents that began on Feb. 28, told

social workers that Mr. Koresh

gave girls as young as 11 plastic Stars of David that signified they

were ready to have sex with him,

the New York Times reported

The Times quoted from the

report of a team headed by Dr.

Bruce D. Perry, chief of psychiatry at Texas Children's

Hospital in Houston. The team

interviewed 19 of the 21 surviving

children of the oult, ages 4 to 11.

Karen Eells, regional director of the Texas Child's Protective

Services Division, had said pre-

viously that the children had

shown no signs of physical abuse.

The Associated Press was unable

to reach Ms. Eells late Monday.

saying several of the girls released

from the compound had circular

lesions on their buttocks that

probably were caused by pad-

Dr. Perry told the Times that

the children were reluctant to

divulge the cult's secrets at first.

"Over the course of two months,

the kids became increasingly

open about 11- and 12-year-old

girls being David's wives," he

The Times quoted Dr. Perry as

leader David Koresh, a newspap-

er reported.

Tuesday.

dling.

Imphal, said state police chief Alfred Liddle. He said fresh fighting erupted in four small towns in the Imphal

Valley Tuesday in which at least 13 people were killed. At least

sanctions by a high-ranking South ternational sanctions against the Korein official. Seoul said pre- North Korea could be issued viously it wanted to negotiate a around June 12, when Pyonsettlement to avoid further isolat- gyang's NPT pullout actually Neighbouring countries suspect North Korea of developing nuc-

lear arsenal.

expected to issue its first resolution on North Korea's NPT with-

Yonhap said. Officials have said a second,

The U.N. Security Council was

drawal as early as Friday,

termeasures" if the world community imposed economic sanctions against it.

Mr. Han's was the first call for tougher resolution galling for in-

trial for espionage amid rumours that may reveal potentially explosive secrets (AFP photo)

queried whether east German although "one has to wait and

Mr. Wolf, according to repute

the model for the spy chief Karla

in John Le Carre's novels, ran

east Germany's foreign espionage

from 1953 to 1987, when he res-

igned for reasons that are still

As head of the Main Adminis-

tration for Information, the foreign-espionage wing of the Ministry of State Security (Stasi), Mr. Wolf was in change of a

network of thousands of spies.

many of them implanted in the

west Germany fabric of govern-ment and economy as "sleeper"

He was so effective that the

east German leader Erich Hon-

ecker reportedly read the weekly

espionage digest of west German

intelligence before Chancellor

Helmut Kohl did. But he was also

such a shadowy figure that the

West first gained proof of his existence in 1979, when a defec-

tor identified a photo of him.

been called to the trial, which is

expected to end in late June.

Eighty-eight witnesses have

agents should be punished, while

west German agents were given

immunity.

Mr. Wolf admitted that he felt

compelled to question his past role in the east German Com-munist system, "but not under the auspices of this court."

Some high-powered support

for Mr. Wolf came, meanwhile,

from one of his former adversar-

ies: the ex-head of west German

counter-espionage, Heribert Hel-

state what every state in the

world does, namely spying, just

like the Federal Republic's secret

service does," Mr. Hellenbroich

said in an interview published

Tuesday in the Cologne paper

Express. "I don't understand

what is so punishable about

On the eve of his trial, Mr.

Wolf said he could not count on

fair proceedings and hinted at

revealing embarrassing secrets if

He said that he and his lawyers

he felt persecuted.

Seoul warns of sanctions against North

entitled to equal treatment. It had prepared "surprises,"

"Wolf did in the name of his

lenbroich.

China, its sole remaining Com-

munist mentor, has so far used its clout as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council to block sanctions.

Hindu-Muslim clashes

North Korea in March warned

it would take "defensive coun-

could not cope. "We have reasons to be worried and we hope New Delhi will take us seriously, he said. Chief Liddle said about 6,000

para-military local troops were pressed into law-and-order duties along with the 12,000-strong state

"We are still keeping our fingers crossed," he said. "We can only hope the trouble does not spread to other areas. At the moment we can barely control the areas affected by the trouble with the forces we have.

Princess Margaret's son to marry

LONDON (AP) — Princess Margaret's 31-year-old son Viscous Linley, a successful furniture designer, is to marry Serena. Alleyne Stanhope. Viscount Linley, nephew of Queen Elizabeth II and 12th in line to the British throne, is the son of Princess Margaret and her former husband, the photographer Lord Snowdon, Viscount Linley, who runs a cabinet-making business in Chelsea, southwest London, met the 23-year-old daughter of Viscount Petersham several years ago when Viscount Petersham commissioned him to make some furniture. Viscount Petersham, son and heir of the 11th Earl of Harrington, issued a statemen announcing the engagement of "Viscount Linley, son of Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, and the Earl of Snowdon, and the Honorable Serena Stanhope, daughter of Viscount Petersham and Virginia, viscountess Peter-sham, to which union Her Majesty the Queen has gladly given her consent." "The wedding is to be held in London in the autumn. No date or venue has been decided upon at this stage," the announcement said.

Men look their best at thirty-something

SEOUL (R) — South Korean men consider they look their best at the age of 34, but women prefer their men's looks at 31, a survey showed. A local research company, polling 461 men and 155 women, disclosed that men were at their healthiest at the age. of 29 but at their most courteous and generous at 46. Two-thirds of the men polled thought they could best improve their appearance by buying a new suit, 11 per cent opted for a haircut and only five per cent thought skin care cosmetics would best benefit

Thai elephants hooked on 'speed'

BANGKOK (R) — At least 30 Thai elephants have become amphetamine addicts because their handlers fed them "speed" to get more work out of them, a 🕏 🔻 Bangkok newspaper reported Tuesday. The mass-circulation Thai Rath reported from an elephant rehabilitation centre in northern Thailand that some of the elephants were seriously ill of mainourished because of the addiction. "Many of them crazy when they need the drug," an official of the Animal Protect tion Foundation that runs the centre told the newspaper. The elephants became addicted to amphetamine after their handlers laced their food with the drug to get them to work longer hours. Many elephants are used in the logging industry. Amphetamines, informally called 'pep pills, speed or uppers," stimulate the central nervous system and are frequently used by long-haul truck drivers in Thailand.

China opens late enemy's villa to tourists

PEKING (R) - China has renovated and opened to tourists the former villa of its late enemy, Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek, in an apparent gesture to Taiwan. The luxurious compound in Chongqing, Chiang's last capital before the Communists drove the general and his armies into exile in Taiwan in 1949, is one of the best preserved sites of the period, the Liaoning Daily said.
Chiang's ancestral home in Zhe jiang province was revamped and made into a tourist attraction few years ago. The renovation of the Chiang residences is seen at an olive branch to Nationalists in Taiwan. Peking considers the is land a breakaway province and wants to bring it under mainland

Number of Japanese children 'dwindling'

TOKYO (R) — The number of Japanese under 15 years old folk by about half a million to 21,100,000 in the year to April L. 21,100,000 in the year to April 12 according to a government surveys a published by Kyodo News Agent of Japanese society, under 13 according to less than 17 per control of the country's total population down half a percentage point from the year before, the surveys from the year before, the survey said. The survey, conducted by the Management and Coordina tion Agency, was released to mark Japan's Children's Day Wednesday, which is a national holiday. The proportion of chil dren as a percentage of Japan total population has been on the decline since 1975, Kyodo said.

Among the main industrialise nations, only Germany and Italy had a smaller percentage of their population under 15, Kyodo said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

2 groups claim S. African attack

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - Two black guerrilla movements made conflicting claims of responsibility for the killing of five whites, but political leaders of both groups said they know nothing about the attacks. Amid the confusing claims, police continued searching Tuesday for suspects in Saturday's mass shooting at a hotel bar in the southern coastal city of East London. Police say the latest attack was strikingly similar to others that have targetted white civilians in the region. The Pan Africanist Congress' military wing has claimed responsibility for several previous shootings. And a man who said he was a leader of the PAC's military wing called a Johannesburg newspaper Monday night to say his group carried out the latest attack. But earlier in the day, an unidentified phone caller told the South African Press Association that a guerrilla group linked to the Azanian People's Liberation Organisation (AZAPO) launched the attack. To complicate matters, political leaders of both organisations said they had no knowledge of their armed wings taking part in the killings.

Alaskans used in cold war tests

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (R) — A senator has confirmed that the U.S. government subjected more than 100 Alaskan villagers to radioactive drugs in the 1950s as part of an experiment on whether soldiers could be dosed to survive better in Arctic conditions. Frank Murkowski told government scientists meeting here that he had called for a federal in stigation into the experiment, in which Eskimos and Indians were given radioactive drugs without their knowledge. The experiment was aimed at finding out whether soldiers could be better conditioned for Arctic temperatipped off by villagers' rumours, dug up a 1957 U.S. Air Force document. "It may turn out that this is a case where there were no human risks - but the burden of proof, I think, is with those responsible for the experiments, namely our federal government," Sen. Murkowski, a Republican senator for Alaska, said at the start of a week-long interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee meeting.

Ex-communists to quit Rome cabinet

ROME (R) - One of three ex-communists in the new Italian government said Tuesday he was quitting and that the other two would follow suit, dashing Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Cjampi's hopes they would reconsider their walkout. Universities and Research Minister Luigi Berlinguer quoted Mr. Ciampi as saying he wanted the representatives of the ex-Communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS) to stay in his new cabinet and expressed regret at the decision. "Ciampi expressed regret and said he would have liked us to stay." Mr. Berlinguer said in an interview with RAI-3 state television after meeting the prime minister Tuesday. The other two PDS cabinet members are Finance Minister Vincenzo Visco and Augusto Barbera, in charge of relations with parliament.

Pakistan sacks intelligence chief

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Lieutenant General Javed Nasir, who led Pakistan's powerful military intelligence agency under deposed Premier Nawaz Sharif, has been fired, a Defence Ministry official said Tuesday. Gen. Nasir was removed from active service Monday after leading the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) for 13 months. He has already been replaced by Lieutenant General Javed Ashraf, 51, who assumed the office of director general of ISI Monday, the official said. Sources here said Gen. Nasir was fired six months ahead of expected retirement. The firing came two weeks after the sacking of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the dissolution of the National Assembly by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in the wake of a bitter power tussle. Gen. Nasir was considered close to Mr. Sharif, whose attempts to clip the presidency's sweeping powers led to his government dismissal on

White House backs down in war of words

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House backed down in a war of words between President Bill Clinton and the Senate's most powerful Republican, who is accusing it of telling "a \$2 million lie" about him. The White House said the Democratic president made a mistake at a White House correspondents' dinner Saturday night when he accused Republican Senator Robert Dole of seeking \$23 million from Mr. Clinton's proposed \$16.3 billion economic stumulus package even while he was fighting to prevent the measure from passing through the Senate. Mr. Clinton said that in case the bill passed, Sen. Dole sought federal funds to convert a senior citizen's home in Kansas, his home state, into a boathouse. In the end, the bill never made it through the Senate. The statement from White House spokesman George Stephanopoulos said that "while Senator Dole did make the case that the Wichita Boathouse is a legitimate (community development block grant) project, the potential cost to the taxpayers is not as high as stated in the president's joke." Sen. Dole had earlier reacted angrily to Mr. Clinton's remark, saying, "the Clinton administration really missed the boat on this one. It's a \$23 million lie and there's no way the White House can defend it."

WHO expels former Yugoslavia

GENEVA (AP) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) opened its annual conference by voting overwhelmingly to expel the former Yugoslavia. Only Russia, a traditional Serb ally, and Zimbabwe joined the Yugoslav delegation in opposing expulsion from the U.N. agency. The decision is part of U.N. sanctions imposed since May on Serb-dominated Yugoslavia for supporting ethnic Serbs in the war in Bosnia-Herzegoviona, Similar expul-sions have been made by other U.N. organisations. Branko Brankovic, Yugoslavia's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, described the 125-3 vote, with 26 abstentions, as a "crime against my people."

100 die in Indian GUWAHATI, India (R) — Most victims were stabbed or Fresh Hindu-Muslim clashes burnt alive, chief Liddle said. erupted in northeast India some were killed by locally-made

Tuesday, taking the death toll in two days of rioting to almost 100. police said.

Mr. Lalas is accused of passing secret information to the Greek government or Greek intelligence | 300 people had been injured.

Most of the victims were Muslims, who make up 10 per cent of Eighty-five bodies were found the state's 1.6 million people, after Monday's violence in and officials said. They said 18 around the Manipur state capital women and seven children were among the dead. "This is the worst violence Man-

exas cult children tell of abuse from the building. It wasn't im-mediately clear whether that pic-Dr. Perry said the children, interviewed in the weeks before the compound was destroyed by

> "We'd ask them, 'what do you think is going to happen?" Dr. Perry told the Times. "They'd say, 'everyone is going to die,' or 'we're going to blow you all up."
>
> Dr. Perry, who heads a team of doctors and Texas Child Protective Service workers treating the children, said he dictated a memo to the FBI on March 11 describ-

> fire on April 19, had made

"many, many, many allusions to

ing those allusions. He said the children also had reported being struck with a paddle called "the helper" as discipline for offenses as minor as spilling milk, and that Mr. Koresh had told them to call their parents "dogs" and refer only to him as their father.

Federal officials, including Altorney General Janet Reno, cited reports of ongoing child abuse as justification for the raid that began several hours before the fire.

Some of the pictures that were drawn by the children were released to the Associated Press Monday...

In one, a little girl drew herself smiling under twinkling Stars of David. In another, a child, asked to draw what would happen to the cultists, showed a stairway leading from the compound to a heaven where a smiling sun ro God peeks over a rainbow. Hearts float beside the stairway

and flame-shaped scribbles shoot

ture was made before or after the . In one picture, a girl who was asked to draw where she lives

ipur has seen," said State Chief

He said the federal government

had been asked to rush in 2,000

soldiers because local police

Minister R.K. Dorendra Singh,

boles in the roof, beneath a rainbow heaven. Most of the children have been placed with relatives. A few remain in temporary state care but will be placed soon with family members.

depicted a house with bullet

Meanwhile, the discovery that Mr. Koresh was shot in the head before a quick-moving fire killed his followers raises as many questions as it answers. Who killed him? When? Why?

What does it say about the end of the 51-day standoff with federal authorities? "It's a good question," Jeff Jamar, the FBI special agent in charge during the standoff, said Monday. "The gunfire told us

somebody was getting shot. Just who and why is the question." On Sunday, authorities said X-rays and dental records proved that the charred body and frag-

mented skull found three days after the fire were the remains of the 33-year-old Koresh. Toxicology tests will be used to determine how much carbon monoxide laced his body. The higher the level, the greater the likelihood Mr. Koresh was alive

Preliminary findings showed Mr. Koresh died of a gunshot

week.

wound in the forehead, Justice of the Peace David Pareya said. He said he did not know whether any weapons were found near the

What it means is unclear at this point. Although Mr. Koresh's body was found alone, all six cult members identified publicly by authorities had been shot in the bead.

Mr. Jamar would not speculate

whether that was chance or trend. "Some people may have been trying to get out," Mr. Jamar said. "Maybe they were shot."

Los Angeles Police Chief Willie L. Williams, an attorney and a journalism professor were selected Monday to review the government's internal investigation of the initial assault in Febru-

ary on the Branch Davidian cult. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen said the three-member panel will offer guidance to the Treasury Department investigation, review its findings and assess the final report.

In addition to Chief Williams. the other two members of treasury's review panel are Henry S. Ruth Jr. and Edwin O. Guthman. Mr. Ruth, the former chief Watergate prosecutor, served on the commission that examined police actions in the fatal standoff

in Philadelphia with the Move

Mr. Guthman, a Pulitzer Prize when fire engulfed the comwinner, was national editor of the pound. Results will take at least a Los Angeles Times and editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer before joining the University of Southern California.

searched the parliament chamber ahead of Tuesday's sitting while security forces and police deployed in the capital remained on a maximum alert to prevent a backlash to the slaying. Hundreds of thousands of mourners have been pouring into the capital to pay respects to Mr. Premadasa whose sealed coffin was moved from his private residence overnight to the colonialstyle presidential palace in downtown Colombo Fort. Meanwhile, Tamil sources said Mr. Premadasa's assassin was a Tamil vouth who had come to Colombo two years ago from the

Pro-government Tamil groups said the assassin seemed to have had access to Mr. Premadasa's private home, which is usually open to all ruling party supporters as well as constituents of the president's Colombo Central electorate.

island's northern Jaffna peninsu-

la, where the separatist Libera-

tion Tigers of Tamil Eelam

(LTTE) guerrillas are active.

Detective Gunatilake said police were yet to firmly establish the identity of the killer but mitial reports suggested that he may have been running the grocery store for Mr. Sujeeva.